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Pakistan Killing wave flares: 24 die

ISLAMABAD, May 30, (Kuna): Unidentified snipers killed 24 more persons today in Karachi where fresh ethnic violence broke out four days ago, according to government-controlled news agency AFP.

In a report tonight it said that seven people each were shot dead in Korangi and Orangi colonies, three in Sindhi Muslim Housing Society.

(Details Page 5)

G. Fernandes sacked from Kashmir post

SRINAGAR, India, May 30, (Reuters): India's troubleshooter in Kashmir, George Fernandes, was dismissed today just two months after he was given the job of trying to talk to anti-Indian militants in the strategic state.

A spokesman for President Ramaswamy Venkataraman said the president had scrapped Fernandes' Kashmiri affairs portfolio at the request of Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh.

Indian politicians on all sides have voiced growing concern about confusion in Delhi's Kashmir strategy since a Muslim revolt erupted in the border state this year, pitching India towards confrontation with neighbouring Pakistan.

Fernandes, who made his political name as a socialist firebrand, stays in the cabinet as railways minister, a post he has held since Singh formed his government last December.

(Continued on Page 5)

Found hanged in the police cell

By Newswaf Al Homi

SECURITYMEN from Sabah Al Salem Police Station last Monday found a Sri Lankan national hanged in the police cell.

Security sources told a local daily that the dead man who was aged 25 was being held in detention when he apparently hanged himself inside the toilet of his cell.

A Filipina housemaid working for a Kuwaiti family had been reported missing from her employer's house for a number of days.

Police who undertook an intensive search found the maid who is aged 27 dead in a deserted house in the Ahmadi area. The cause of death has been attributed to hanging.

Quake rocks Central Europe

BUCHAREST, May 30, (Reuters): At least nine people died as a powerful earthquake rocked Central Europe from the Baltic to the Black Sea and as far south as Yugoslavia today.

Romanian television said eight were killed and 260 injured in Bucharest and towns to the north and east of the capital.

Bulgarian television reported a woman died of shock in a town on the Danube river which divides Bulgaria from Romania.

The Soviet news agency Tass quoted a parliamentary. Hmar Bisher, as saying the quake caused serious damage in the Soviet Republic of Moldavia, bordering Romania.

"According to first reports, there was not only destruction but dead and wounded," he said, but gave no details.

Bucharest radio and television reports said the Romanian toll was expected to rise. A witness reported seeing three people dead in a Bucharest street, killed by falling rubble.

(On the other side of the world, in northern Peru, a 5.8 Richter scale quake struck last night, killing 67 people in the city of

Moyohamba on the western fringe of the Amazon jungle, according to reports reaching Lima).

In Bucharest, police and rescue workers said many of the casualties were among people who leapt in panic from the balconies of high-rise flats. Thousands more fled from offices and homes as tiles and masonry tumbled from rooftops.

"For a new second, I thought I could see death, then I ran for my life," said office worker Dana Niculescu, 28.

Strong shocks were felt for

thousands of miles across the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Turkey.

Romanian television said the quake was centred in the hilly and sparsely populated Vrancea region northeast of Bucharest.

It said the 45-second quake, at 1.42 pm (1042 GMT), was measured at 6.5 on the open-ended Richter scale.

Scientists in other countries put it as high as seven, giving it the seismic punch of some of the world's mightiest earthquakes.

(Continued on Page 2)

Arab leaders condemn US support for Israel

Mubarak's surprise stop-over in Syria to brief Assad

BAGHDAD, May 30, (Agencies): Arab leaders ended their summit in Baghdad today by strongly condemning US support for Israel while ignoring US advice to go beyond previous Arab positions on a Middle East peace settlement.

The three-day summit, called to counter the influx of Soviet Jews into Israel, accused Israel of planning to use the new immigrants to create a greater Israel by killing or deporting Palestinians from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

It said Israel's policy was one of "aggression, terrorism and expansion... a genocide and immigration plan."

The United States bore prime responsibility "as the state which provides Israel with the military means, financial aid and political cover without which it could not pursue these policies," a final statement said.

Syria boycotted the summit but Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in surprise move stopped off in Damascus on his way home to brief President Hafez Al Assad on the outcome.



HH the Amir back home after attending the emergency Arab summit in Baghdad.

Amir praises Saddam

BAGHDAD, May 30, (Kuna): His Highness the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah today commended the Iraqi leadership and people for hosting the extraordinary Arab summit and said President Saddam Hussein was able to steer it to a successful end.

Speaking on behalf of the GCC states at the closing session, Sheikh Jaber also congratulated the Yemeni people for their reunification and said, "we will support their national steps and wish the Yemeni people and government all success."

The Amir praised the outcome of the summit and said it was represented in the resolutions and positions reached during the deliberations.

Sheikh Jaber also commended the Arab League secretariat headed by Secretary-General Chadi Klibi for making all preparations for the summit which ensured the success of the conference.

The Amir stressed on the importance and effectiveness of the summit and commended decisions reached in Baghdad.

The Amir sent a cable of thanks to Iraqi president for the generous hospitality extended to HH and his accompanying delegation during their stay in Baghdad.

The Amir returned home today from Baghdad after attending the extraordinary Arab summit.

Israel foils Palestinian raid

NIZZANIM, Israel, May 30, (Agencies): Heavily armed Palestinians in speed boats today launched a raid aimed at Tel Aviv hotels during a Jewish holiday when beaches were crowded with thousands of Israelis, the army said. Soldiers killed four raiders and captured 12.

One of the six speedboats came ashore only a few hundred yards from a crowded Mediterranean beach-club here but no Israelis were killed or wounded.

A second was intercepted enroute to an undisclosed location on the beachfront north of Tel Aviv.

Witnesses in Nizzanim said a speedboat with 11 commandos was headed north towards Tel Aviv when it was chased ashore by an Israeli gunboat. The commandos were pinned down in the sanddunes by heavy fire from two US-made Cobra helicopter gunships and elite army units. Four were killed.

Israeli civilians were forced off miles of beaches south of Tel Aviv, where they had come on the Shavout holiday or festival of weeks.

Israeli officials accused the PLO of carrying out the attack with the help of Libya at a time when Arab leaders met in a summit in Baghdad, Iraq. They said the goal was to massacre civilians in Tel Aviv hotels.

A Palestinian group said it launched a sea attack against Israel today to avenge the mass killing of Arab workers last week.

Israel said today the United States should end its dialogue with the PLO after the seaborne raid by Palestinian gunmen.

The Foreign Ministry said Ambassador Moshe Arad informed the State Department that the attack, was carried out by a constituent member of the PLO.

(Details Page 9)

The Arab kings and presidents said they were committed to a Palestinian peace initiative and to the resolutions they passed at their last summit in Casablanca, Morocco, a year ago.

But they did not repeat earlier references to UN Security Council Resolution 242, which the United States uses as a yardstick to sort out Arab moderates from hardliners.

In a note to the summit, Washington asked them to include the resolution, which implicitly recognises Israel's right to exist, and go beyond the Casablanca resolutions and endorse PLO leader Yasser Arafat's statements in December 1988 recognising the Jewish state and renouncing terrorism.

A PLO faction today claimed responsibility for a speedboat attack on two Israeli beaches near Tel Aviv, saying it was retaliating for the murder by an Israeli gunman of seven Palestinian workers earlier this month.

Egypt, the only Arab state at peace with Israel, tried to persuade fellow Arabs to include 242 in the communique.

Revolutionary leader Muammar Khaddafi of Libya, whose country recorded reservations about 242 in Casablanca, said the results of the Baghdad summit were a great improvement.

"As far as I am concerned, this summit wiped out what was decided at the Casablanca summit, which was embarrassing. It was Arab weakness, Arab capitulation," Khaddafi told the conference's closing session.

The summit saw heated wrangling between Egypt and Iraq, the summit host, on what kind of language might persuade Washington to change policies seen by Arabs as biased towards Israel.

Egypt, the second largest recipient of US aid after Israel, argued against blaming the US administration for all the ills of the Middle East.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, who is very popular among the Arab masses for thumbing his nose at the West and brandishing Iraq's military might, wanted to recruit other Arabs behind strident anti-American rhetoric, delegates said.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) called for the summit out of deeply disappointment at the stalemate in the Middle East peace process and later backed Iraq's positions.

Delegates said the outcome was a compromise but the hardliners probably had the edge over the moderates.

"The other side has gained a lot but it could have been worse," a delegate from a conservative country said.

The summit statement deplored "threats against the Arab world" — a reference to Iraq's view that the West is harping on its military industrialisation as the prelude to an attack.

"The conference vigorously condemns these threats, campaigns and hostile measures and affirms its effective solidarity with Iraq," their statement said.

The summit said the Soviet Jewish migration to Israel was a "an impudent violation of human rights and a dangerous threat to Arab national security."

It asked the United Nations to set up an international supervisory mechanism to ensure that

Big 2 face dangerous Palestinian situation



Gorbachev raises his fist while greeting people on an Ottawa street. (Reuters wirephoto)

Mideast volatile

US rules out German cuts

WASHINGTON, May 30, (Agencies): The United States today ruled out any deal with the Soviet Union to limit the size of the military forces of a united Germany.

"The President is not preparing to offer a proposal for future negotiations to limit the military forces of a united Germany," White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said.

Fitzwater was commenting on suggestions that the United States might offer a deal during discussions at this week's US-Soviet summit which would limit military forces in Germany as a way of satisfying security concerns of the Soviet Union.

Fitzwater said the United States opposed any deal that would single out Germany for special treatment.

Fitzwater said the Soviet Union had legitimate concerns about German military strength, but said the proper forum for limiting Germany's armed might was in multilateral talks to reduce conventional arms in Europe.

More on Summit

— Page 8 —

He said German talks should be put off until 'follow on' negotiations to conventional arms talks now in progress.

Fitzwater reiterated US insistence that a unified Germany should be a full political and military member of Nato.

Presidents George Bush and Mikhail Gorbachev are faced with a more volatile and dangerous Middle East than when they last met six months ago, a situation highlighted by threatening statements from the Arab summit in Baghdad.

Bush is expected to urge Gorbachev in summit talks to help ease conflicts in Central America, the Middle East, Cambodia and other world hot spots.

US officials say.

This will be no easy part of the Washington agenda, they said.

While Bush is encouraged by signs of Soviet moderation in foreign policy, administration officials said, he believes Gorbachev has not done enough to

(Continued on Page 2)

Yeltsin calls for resignation of Ryzhkov

MOSCOW, May 30, (Reuters): Boris Yeltsin, the new President of the Soviet Union's biggest and most powerful republic, called today for the resignation of the national government and its Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov.

At his first news conference since his election as President of the Russian Federation yesterday, Yeltsin condemned Ryzhkov's plans for transformation to a market economy and said he would resist projected price rises.

(See Page 8)

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Bush/Gorbachev

promote peace in a number of troubled areas.

"There's been a deterioration in the environment in the Middle East, both between Israel and the Palestinians and between Israel and the United States," said Martin Indyk, director of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy.

Since Bush and Gorbachev met in Malta last December, several things have happened to make the Middle East look a more dangerous place:

● A US-sponsored effort to get Israeli-Palestinian peace talks going has collapsed, along with Israel's national unity government. An Israeli government led by right-wingers seems sure to replace it. Meanwhile, Israeli-US relations are at a low point.

● Iraq's President Saddam Hussein has threatened to use advanced chemical weapons to retaliate against any Israeli chemical or nuclear attack. At the same time, Iraq has apparently acquired nuclear triggering devices to spur its efforts to develop its own nuclear weapons.

● The Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories has



A group of school children wave Canadian and Soviet flags as Gorbachev stops to meet them on Tuesday. (Reuters wirephoto)

flared again with renewed force following the massacre of seven Arabs by a "deranged" Israeli last week.

● An influx of thousands of Soviet Jews to Israel has roused Arab fears they will bolster Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank, Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem. Jordan's King Hussein fears their coming will eventually destabilise his

kingdom by pushing Palestinians across the Jordan river.

"Instability in the Middle East coupled with the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, is a major threat to both superpowers. But there are too many other, more pressing issues at this summit from them to be able to do much about it," said Judith Kipper, an analyst with the Brookings Institution.

The Soviet Jewry issue is the one point certain to figure in the Bush-Gorbachev talks.

Gorbachev has promised Arab states he would raise the question. But he cannot slow or stop the flow of emigrants without jeopardising Soviet chances of getting most-favoured-nation trade advantages from the United States.

Palestinian-Americans and Arab-American organisations in the US issued a four-point appeal to Bush and Gorbachev to intensify their efforts to bring about a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

In a statement, the Palestinian-Americans and their supporters urged joint superpower efforts, first, for an immediate ban on the US and exports of all American-made tear-gas, rubber bullets being used by the Israeli army against Palestinian civilians.

Second, they also asked for a joint US-Soviet endorsement for an immediate UN presence in the occupied territories to protect Palestinian civilians, as well as a joint acceptance of the despatching of a UN observer force to be placed near and around all major Palestinian population centres.

Third, they urged a joint declaration by the two countries endorsing the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state with East Jerusalem as its capital. Four, the statement asked that

(Continued from Page 1)

freedom of movement and choice for all Soviet Jews to emigrate anywhere they so desire, yet retaining their rights as Soviet citizens to return to the Soviet Union if they so choose.

Georgi Arbatov, chief Soviet expert on the US, yesterday asserted bluntly it was none of the Americans, the Arab world's "or even the Palestinians'" business to advise Moscow and Soviet Jewish emigration.

He also addressed the problems of chemical and other arms proliferation in the Mideast.

Arbatov, director of the Soviet Union's US and Canada institute and a Soviet peoples' deputy, spoke during a special briefing at the National Press building in Washington.

Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennadi Gerasimov held out the possibility of a joint US-Soviet statement on the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories.

Responding to a question by Kuna, Gerasimov said there is agreement on both sides that it is "unwise and unlawful" for Israel to allow Soviet Jews to settle in the occupied territories.

"Here we have one position and speak with one voice," Gerasimov told a news conference.

Gerasimov said a joint statement would be called for, although he said he doesn't know if the United States is prepared for it.

Summit

(Continued from Page 1)

Soviet Jews did not settle in "Palestine and other occupied territories."

Accusing the US Congress of supporting and financing the migration, the conference expressed "indignation and condemnation of the positions of bias, political protection and great support for Israel, militarily and economically, which mark the ... resolutions of the American Congress."

It condemned both houses of Congress for passing non-binding resolutions declaring occupied Jerusalem the capital of Israel and said the Arab world would take political and economic steps against any country recognising the occupied city as capital of the Jewish state.

It rejected what it called US threats to use force against Libya and demanded the Congress lift anti-Libyan sanctions.

The Arab leaders said Jordan was directly threatened by Israeli settlement plans and vowed to provide Amman with financial aid to be decided in bilateral consultations.

Arab leaders praised Iraq's latest peace overtures to Iran and PLO officials said Yasser Arafat might go to Tehran on a mediation mission.

"The conference noted with great satisfaction Iraq's peaceful initiatives, the last of which was the letter of peace which President Saddam Hussein of Iraq sent to the Iranian leadership," the final statement said.

The leaders reiterated a call for a "comprehensive, lasting peace between Iran and Iraq on the basis of UN Security Council Resolution 598 (in a way) ... which guarantees Iraq's rights and ... historic right to sovereignty over the Shatt Al Arab."

Rights to the Shatt Al Arab waterway, Iraq's main outlet to the Gulf, were a major factor in the 1980-83 Gulf war, estimated to have killed or wounded about a million people.

A senior PLO official said Arafat would probably travel to the Iranian capital to try to arrange direct peace talks between Saddam Hussein and Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani.

"I think it's likely. There will be mediation to find a way to settle the conflict between Iran and Iraq," PLO Executive Committee member Yasser Abed Rabbo told Reuters.

The conference affirms Iraq's right to possess science and advanced technology and use them for purposes which are permitted under international law.

The conference also affirms the legal right of Iraq and all Arab states to reply to aggression by the means they see fit to protect their security and sovereignty.

The conference decided to give aid to Jordan through bilateral consultation with it to enable it to reinforce its steadfastness.

The Soviet military presence in Aden will not be terminated following the merger of the two Yemens, the president of the new state declared yesterday.

Khaddafi appeals

Drop birth control

BAGHDAD, May 30. (AP) Libya's mercurial leader Col Moammar Khaddafi today surprised his allies and critics with a sense of humour that sent the closing session of the charged Arab summit into bursts of laughter.

He prompted a rare humorous comment from Iraq's no-nonsense President Saddam Hussein, also sending waves of laughter sweeping across the conference hall.

"I demand that birth control be dropped and that we multiply our population," Khaddafi shouted.

"I want the (Arab world of 150 million) population to reach a billion. If the Israelis have the means to trigger nuclear explosions, then we can trigger population explosion. This way Palestine can become a graveyard for Israel."

Amid bursts of laughter around the conference hall, the Iraqi President interjected, "O brother Moammar, if you really mean that about multiplying the population, I invite your attention to Egypt. You may have to pay the high costs to our brother (Egyptian President) Hosni Mubarak."

King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, President Mubarak, and other leaders laughed heartily.

Egypt's population has exceeded the million mark, with acute housing, food supply, and other problems in the thin, habitable strips of Nile valley land on which Egyptians live.



Libyan leader Khaddafi laughs at the closing ceremony of the emergency Arab summit. (Reuters wirephoto)

Quake

(Continued from Page 1)

The area was last hit by a major earthquake in 1977 when a tremor measuring 7.2 killed more than 1,000 people and devastated much of Bucharest, now a city of 2.3 million people.

Romanians, still dizzy from the bloody revolution which brought communist rule to an end in December, were in panic.

Schools were evacuated and children sat in playgrounds still trembling from aftershocks half an hour after the main tremor.

The earthquake is unlikely to have caused an accident at any nuclear power plants in the region, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said in Vienna.

A spokesman for the US embassy in Moscow said a 10-storey building in the embassy complex in central Moscow was closed after the tremor was felt in the Soviet capital.

"There was building and restoration work going on there, so we decided to send people home for safety's sake," he said.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev said today a major earthquake in Eastern Europe caused no significant casualties or damage in the Soviet Union and there was no need for him to cut short his visit to Canada and the United States.



Linanes Palace

A time-exposure photograph shows part of the interior of the Linanes Palace in central Madrid yesterday. Spanish scientists say they have recorded voices of what they say are ghosts that haunt the palace, and have witnessed furniture moving inexplicably during an 18-month investigation. (Reuters wirephoto)

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Gaviria to reorganise anti-drug campaign

BOGOTA, May 30. (Agencies): President-elect Cesar Gaviria said yesterday he would reorganise Colombia's intelligence services to make the fight against drug-trafficking more effective.

Gaviria, a strong opponent of Colombia's powerful cocaine barons, spoke to reporters after talks with outgoing President Virgilio Barco on the transition to the new government, which takes office on August 7.

"I propose to redirect the intelligence services, anything to do with criminal organisation," Gaviria said in his first session with reporters since his election Sunday. "The time will come to take decisions on these bodies as doubtless on all other state institutions."

Gaviria, a 43-year-old former interior minister and Liberal Party member, was elected with 47.5 per cent of the vote, twice as much as his nearest challenger, Alvaro Gomez of a dissident conservative movement.

Western diplomats said the vote gave Gaviria a mandate to push on with Barco's tough anti-drug policy, which has plunged Colombia into a bloody war with the cocaine barons.

Gaviria said he hoped drug-traffickers would abandon a bombing campaign which has killed 70 people in the last two months.

"I trust that those practising terrorism will understand that it is a blind policy, a policy of hatred, which was rejected by Colombians at the polls and that it is absolutely pointless," he said.

Gaviria also said he hoped he could reach a peace accord with left-wing guerrilla groups such as the M-19, which laid down its arms last March and took part in the elections. Five other rebel groups have continued to fight.

The army said meanwhile that soldiers had killed two drug-traffickers in eastern province of Guaviare and four rebels of the left-wing People's Liberation Army in the northern province of Norte de Santander.

Three rebels were captured and some weapons seized in Norte de Santander yesterday, the army said.

Local newspapers said Gaviria, who has called for national unity, was likely to offer two ministries to a breakaway conservative movement which came in second in the polls and one ministry each to the leftist M-19 and the social Conservative Party.

Despite Gaviria's clear win, the Liberal Party began a post-mortem of why voter turnout was so low.

Liberal sources said some party members blamed regional party leaders for failing to campaign strongly enough for Gaviria, whose activity was restricted because of assassination threats.

The vote totals released by the national elections office, are based on 95 per cent of the ballots counted.

Gaviria plans to create special courts modelled on Italian anti-Mafia tribunals and provide heavy security for judges to hear drug cases involving the powerful cocaine cartels, officials and diplomats said Tuesday.

Gaviria's plan for rebuilding the justice system include creation of separate heavily guarded courts that would try cocaine cases exclusively, aides and diplomats said.

Gaviria also has proposed creation of judicial compounds to protect judges and their families who hear drug cases. The plan, which would include the magistrate's families, is modelled on the Italian system's handling of Mafia cases.

Peru Maoist Shining Path rebels assassinated two leaders of Mario Vargas Llosa's Democratic Front coalition in separate attacks yesterday, police said in Lima.

Felix Vega Riquelme, the former governor of Piura, was shot dead in the coastal city located 530 miles (850 kilometres) northwest of Lima, police said.

Hours later, in the Andean city of Cerro de Pasco, Prospero Delson Huaman was shot and killed, police said. Cerro de Pasco is 110 miles (175 kilometres) northeast of Lima. (AP)

Chile Former military ruler Augusto Pinochet denies holding any secret police files, although President Patricio Aylwin says he ordered the right-wing general to hand them over.

"What files? I don't have any," Pinochet, who still commands the country's 60,000-member army, told reporters Monday night.

Aylwin summoned Pinochet to the presidential palace Monday afternoon for an hour-long meeting. According to a statement by Aylwin's office, he asked Pinochet for details on the dissolving of the National Information Centre, a feared secret police agency during military rule. (AP)

NEWS IN BRIEF

America

Man strafes bar with AK-47: A man angered because he couldn't take his drink out of a bar drove by the lounge and opened fire with an automatic rifle early Tuesday, killing a woman and wounding five people, police said in Miami.

The wounded were taken to Jackson Memorial Hospital where they were listed as stable, said police. The trouble started when two men trying to leave the Magic City lounge three blocks east of the downtown section were told it was against the law to carry their drinks outside, police said. An argument ensued and the men left.

The two drove by in a car and one opened fire with a fully automatic AK-47 assault rifle, police said. One of the bullets went through a 3-inch 17.6-centimetre metal door and fatally wounded Tracy L. Black, a 25-year-old customer inside the bar, police said. (AP)

Train derails, spills fuel: A freight train derailed near Fairbanks and spilled more than 100,000 gallons (379,000 litres) of jet and diesel fuel, state officials said in Alaska.

The southbound train with more than 50 cars derailed on Monday about 40 miles (64 kilometres) south of Fairbanks, said Arnold Polanchek, vice-president of operations for the state-owned Alaska Railroad Corp.

No one was injured in the derailment and the company still was investigating the cause, Polanchek said.

Railroad cleanup crews and State Department of environmental conservation officials were on the scene, Polanchek said. (AP)

Quake shakes Kodiak Island: A strong earthquake rattled Kodiak Island on Tuesday, but there were no immediate reports of damage or injuries.

The tremor on Tuesday morning was centred about 50 miles (80 kilometres) southwest of Kodiak, and had a preliminary magnitude reading of 5.8 on the Richter scale, said Bill Zitek, a spokesman at the Alaska Tsunami Warning Centre.

"It was felt strongly in Kodiak and at old harbour," Zitek said. "I guess a few things fell off shelves." (AP)

Pointdexter convictions upheld: A judge refused Tuesday to overturn John M. Pointdexter's five Iran-Contra convictions, ruling that the former national security adviser had presented a weak defence against strong evidence.

US District Judge Harold H. Greene denied defence motions for a judgement of acquittal on the five felony convictions of then-President Ronald Reagan's national security adviser.

"A review of this evidence reveals that proof of defendant's guilt of the charges is compelling," Greene said of the conspiracy obstruction of Congress and false statement convictions that were returned April 7 by the jury in the case. (AP)

Ku Klux Klan appeal rejected: The Supreme Court on Tuesday rejected an appeal by two Ku Klux Klan groups and four men ordered to pay more than \$800,000 for organising a demonstration that turned into a violent attack on civil rights marchers in Georgia.

The court, without comment, let stand a ruling that the punitive damages award did not violate the free-speech rights of the KKK and its sympathisers.

The civil rights demonstration in Forsyth County, Georgia, was led by state legislator Hosea Williams on Jan 17, 1987, the birthday of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

The KKK staged a counter-demonstration intended to convince blacks to stay out of the county. The Ku Klux Klan is a secret society that has used violence to oppose civil rights. (AP)

Plant begins working: The long-delayed Seabrook nuclear plant has generated nuclear-powered electricity for New England customers for the first time four years after the plant was completed and 14 years after construction began.

Africa

Zambia to hold referendum: President Kenneth Kaunda's ruling party has decided to hold a nationwide referendum on whether to restore a multi-party democracy in the Southern African nation for the first time since 1973.

Kaunda, closing an extraordinary two-day meeting of the ruling United National Independence Party, said Tuesday a referendum would be held to test public support, but he vowed to campaign vigorously against multi-party politics.

"As a party we are saying the people are free to make their choice and the party will respect it," said Kaunda, who has ruled the country since independence in 1964. (UPI)

Somalis seek asylum: A pilot and mechanic diverted their Somali Army transport plane carrying 49 people to this tiny country and demanded political asylum Tuesday, a French news agency reported.

Col Mohamed Sheikh Ibrahim and Moussa Hersi Warsama headed for Djibouti shortly after taking off from Mogadishu, the Somali capital, for a scheduled flight to Hargeisa in northern Somalia, the Agence France Presse News Agency reported.

The Antonov 26 transport plane carried 43 military and civilian passengers and a flight crew of six, AFP reported. (AP)

Sudan seeks explanation: Sudan said on Tuesday it had asked the Ugandan government to explain why it was holding three Sudanese nationals.

Ahmed Korimino, an official at the Sudanese Embassy in Kampala, told Reuters the embassy sent a note to the Foreign Ministry on Friday inquiring about the arrest three weeks ago of Ahmed Al Tom, Ahmed Ibrahim and Khazim Shafi Al Noor.

All the three Sudanese were employed by the Kuwaiti-based International Islamic Charitable Organisation (IICF) in Kampala. (Reuters)

Teacher-student protest, 3 dead: Police set up posts at strategic points Tuesday to block a protest by teachers and students following the deaths of three people during demonstrations earlier in the day in Freetown, Sierra Leone.



To be tried by special court

Former deputy economy minister Nikos Athanasiou listens as the president of the Supreme Court rules that he should be tried by a special criminal court on charges of corruption May 29 in Athens. Athanasiou is charged with forging documents and fraud in an illegal grain sale to the European Economic Community. (Reuters wirephoto)

Shuttle Columbia

Launch put off

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida, May 30. (Reuters): Engineers are seeking the cause of a dangerous fuel leak that forced the launch of the shuttle Columbia and it \$148 million cargo space telescopes to be delayed until at least Friday.

Officials said they were hesitant to reschedule the launch until the source of a hydrogen gas leak, discovered yesterday, had been traced.

"We're definitely not going to launch tomorrow (Thursday)," Lisa Malone, a spokeswoman for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa), said.

The delay was the second in three weeks for Columbia, which was to have blasted off at 0038 (0438 GMT) today. The mission was postponed on May 9 for repairs to the shuttle's air conditioning system.

Latin America

Endara to wed June 10: The white heiress that grace the inner courtyard of the presidential palace in Panama City may not know a new occupant is about to move in but everyone else in Panama does - the President is about to take a new bride.

On June 10 President Guillermo Endara, an affable, portly, 53-year-old widower, will marry Ana Mae Diaz, a 23-year-old law student he met last September while staging a hunger strike to protest against the rule of deposed strongman General Manuel Noriega. (Reuters)

Agreement on 'development zones': The Nicaraguan government has agreed to create more than 20 "development zones" where the estimated 12,000 rebels and their families can settle after being disarmed.

The agreement was signed Tuesday night following talks that resumed earlier in the day between the government and leaders of the rebels, known as Contras.

The negotiations had been suspended Friday after the Contras alleged that 100 civilians and 14 disarmament rebels had been massacred by government troops. A government investigation turned up no evidence to verify the claim. (AP)

Manley doing well: Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley, hospitalised with double pneumonia Tuesday had a good appetite, was breathing better and was giving orders to his aides, a government spokesman said.

"He woke up and started writing a long list of things to be done," said Manley's wife, with Manley at the Miami Heart Institute.

Manley, 65, was flown here from Kingston by air ambulance early Monday. He has pneumonia in both lungs, doctors said. (AP)

Stranded tanker threatens: A ship grounded off the coast of Brazil is threatening to break up and spray thousands of tonnes of crude oil and coal across some of the country's most spectacular beaches, state officials said on Tuesday.

The governor of Rio de Janeiro state ordered police to arrest the crew of the Cyprus-registered Mineral Star, who abandoned the ship after it ran aground last month in the Bay of Angra dos Reis, 150 miles (90 miles) from Rio. (Reuters)

22 killed in Peru quake: A strong earthquake collapsed buildings in northern Peru, killing 22 people and injuring dozens of others, according to reports from ham radio operators and disaster relief officials.

The quake occurred at 9:34 pm Tuesday (0234 GMT Wednesday) and registered 5.8 on the open-ended Richter scale, the Peru Geophysical Institute said. (UPI)

100 poisoned by insecticide: Insecticide fumes poisoned 100 people in southwestern Venezuela after an unidentified Colombian man ignited the chemical that was stored in a warehouse, a Health Ministry official said on Tuesday.

US to review abortion ruling

WASHINGTON, May 30. (Reuters): By agreeing to review another politically and emotionally charged abortion case, the Supreme Court has ensured that one of the most divisive issues in the United States will remain before it for yet another term.

The justices, in a brief order yesterday, agreed to rule on the controversial government regulations adopted in 1988 when Ronald Reagan was president banning the use of federal funds for abortion counselling and referral.

The regulations, kept in place by President George Bush, were challenged in court by abortion proponents for violating a woman's legal right to an abortion and infringing on free-speech guarantees.

Kate Michelman, an abortion rights advocate, welcomed the Supreme Court review, saying the regulations "prevent women from obtaining accurate medical advice and necessary health care."

"To say that a doctor cannot even tell a patient that abortion is a legal option not only is a threat to the right of privacy, but also strikes at the heart of our (free-speech) rights," she said in a statement.

The Supreme Court will schedule oral arguments in the case during its new term that begins in October, with a decision expected in 1991.

The case does not directly address the Supreme Court's landmark 1973 ruling that legalised abortions throughout the land and sparked the country's most bitter debate since the Vietnam war.

But legal experts said the case represents part of the High Court's efforts to grapple with the growing efforts by states and the federal government to place major new restrictions on abortions without banning the procedures altogether.

Nearly a year ago, the court's conservative majority, by a 5-4 vote, approved significant

new restrictions in US abortion law, allowing states to ban any public funds for abortions.

Before the scheduled end of the current term in just four weeks, the Supreme Court will rule whether teen-age girls can end their pregnancies without first notifying one or both parents.

This case has been closely watched by both sides in the battle because one-third of the 1.5 million abortions performed in the United States each year involve teenage girls.

Bush administration lawyers, who have defended the law banning public funds for abortion referrals and counselling, sought to minimise the significance of the High Court's action.

They said the Supreme Court was virtually required to decide the issue in view of conflicting lower-court rulings.

Although they asked the justices to hear the case, the administration stopped short of its previous pleadings.

Barry says US tried to kill him

WASHINGTON, May 30. (AP): Mayor Marion Barry acknowledged in a published interview that he smoked crack cocaine the night of his arrest, but he contends federal authorities tried to kill him by providing a potent dose.

In an interview in today's Washington Post, the mayor also said he was confident he would not be convicted of drug and perjury charges because "in this town all it takes is one juror saying 'I'm not going to convict Marion Barry.'"

Barry said the FBI sting operation in January that led to his arrest was part of a long effort by federal authorities to discredit him.

"The prosecutors have been dipping and nibbling in the politics of Washington for a long time, and it's unconscionable," the mayor was quoted as saying. "And then they tried to kill me, it's unprecedented."

Barry said the videotape that recorded the sting and his arrest "is more damaging to the government than to me."

"It shows they bought the liquor, they did everything there. They had me ingest cocaine crack cocaine, which could have killed me...I could have been dead now, with 70, 80, 90 per cent pure cocaine," the mayor said.

Judy Smith, a spokeswoman for the US attorney, was not at home to comment on Barry's remarks her husband said last night.

Yesterday, a federal judge set the stage for Barry's trial to begin next week when he tentatively refused to separate 14 criminal charges into two cases.

Meanwhile, close advisers were telling Barry that he should abandon his re-election hopes and seek a deal with prosecutors said top city officials who spoke on the condition they not be identified.

But Barry's campaign staff director, Anita Bonds, denied a report that the mayor would consider making a deal with the government.

Barry "is getting himself ready for trial. Plea bargaining is not in the picture," Bonds said.

Barry was treated for substance abuse at clinics in Florida and South Carolina after his Jan 18 arrest.

Barry campaign officials picked up petitions Friday for a potential re-election bid, the first formal step to a possible candidacy.

A federal judge sentenced a reputed member of Colombia's Medellin drug cartel to 30 years in prison and fined him \$5 million on Tuesday after his conviction on two counts of drug conspiracy.

Jose Abello Silva, who was extradited to the United States from Colombia about six months ago, was convicted May 19 on one count of conspiracy to import cocaine and marijuana into the United States and one count of conspiracy to possess drugs with the intent to distribute.

During yesterday's sentencing, US District Judge Thomas Brett sentenced Abello-Silva to 30 years on each count but ordered the terms to run concurrently.

Abello-Silva, who stood with his arms crossed during the hour-long sentencing, maintained his innocence.



Demonstrator hurt

Abortion demonstrators injured on the steps of the Parliament building after being ejected by police in Ottawa, May 29. The demonstrators were protesting the passing of the government's new abortion bill, which was passed by 104 votes. (Reuters wirephoto)

Drugs found in car

Feldman grilled

LOS ANGELES, May 30. (Reuters): US teen-age film actor Corey Feldman cried when police found drugs in his car and denied they belonged to him, a police witness said yesterday.

Feldman, 18, a co-star of such films as 'Goonies', the 'Burbys', and 'Stand By Me', was also nervous when he was ordered out of his car, said police officer Edward Maytorena.

"They're not mine," Maytorena quoted Feldman as saying. Prosecutors claim two small balloons containing cocaine and 23 small balloons containing heroin were found in Feldman's garbage-filled car after he was stopped for speeding March 9.

Los Angeles Municipal Court Judge Marel Injeikjan ordered Feldman yesterday, after a preliminary hearing, to stand trial on charges of possessing cocaine and possessing heroin for sale.

If found guilty on both counts, Feldman could be sentenced to up to eight years imprisonment. Feldman told reporters, outside the courtroom during a break in the proceeding: "I feel good right now."

UAL plane makes emergency landing

SEATTLE, May 30. (AP): A United Airlines 747 jetliner made an emergency landing in Hong Kong after the cabin could not be pressurised, a television station reported.

The incident occurred Monday at 12,000 feet (3,660 metres) shortly after the Boeing-built aircraft took off from Hong Kong bound for Seattle, Kiro-TV reported.

No injuries were reported. A passenger, Linda Stevenson, told the station that she and others saw a hole about 4 feet (a metre) wide on the bottom of the fuselage after the plane landed smoothly.

The station said a Hong Kong newspaper was told by United that the aircraft had lost an air-conditioning duct. But Kiro quoted a United spokesman in Chicago as saying the case

remained under investigation.

United did not return phone calls to the Associated Press late, but Boeing commercial airplane group spokesman Jack Gamble said the manufacturer was told by United the problem was with an air-conditioning duct and that the air-conditioning system could not be pressurised.

He said Boeing was not told of a hole in the aircraft.

"I would think that if it had been something of that nature we would have been told of it," he said.

Stevenson said she heard a loud bang and smelled smoke shortly after takeoff. She said the crew thought it might have been a tyre exploding but decided to return to the airport after pressure could not be maintained in the Jumbo jet.

Bok quits post as Harvard president

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts, May 30. (AP): Harvard University President Derek C. Bok, who during two tumultuous decades broadened both the reputation and endowment at America's oldest university, announced his resignation yesterday.

"I haven't yet had time to think about what to do next," Bok said in a statement.

Bok, who became president in 1971, said that "it is time for me to step down and allow a new president to provide fresh energy and continuity of leadership through the next decade."

Peter Costa, a spokesman for the university, said he could not elaborate on Bok's reasons for the resignation, which will take effect at the end of the 1990-91 academic year.

Bok, a Stanford University graduate, earned a law degree from Harvard in 1954. He joined the Harvard law school faculty in 1958.

Bok, 60, is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and author of several books, including one on labour law.

During his tenure as Harvard's president, Bok established both the John F. Kennedy school of government and revived an undergraduate core curriculum based on the study of classics.

Bok often made headlines with his conservative views on education and business, including a controversial stand against a movement for total divestment of the university's holdings in stocks of companies doing business in South Africa.

Among his challenges, he headed the school during sometimes violent anti-Vietnam war demonstrations, and negotiated with black students and professors arguing over the years for better minority representation.

But most of Bok's efforts were low-key as he worked behind the scenes to maintain traditions at Harvard, which celebrated its 350th anniversary in 1986 and has one of the nation's richest endowments.

Portugal wages war on South American narcotics smuggling

LISBON, May 30. (Reuters): Downstairs from an austere Lisbon police office, a heavily guarded storeroom smelling of hashish holds enough assorted confiscated drugs to pay for a Miami condominium.

The office is that of Jose Nunes Gonçalves Carvalho, director of the Portuguese judicial police's beefed up anti-drug squad which is waging war on narcotics smuggling. Situated on the southwestern tip of Europe, Portugal is becoming one of the leading entry points for South American drugs - and authorities are determined to wipe out the trade.

Co-operation has increased with the United States and other concerned countries, border controls are tighter and hundreds of specialised police

work on tip-offs from around the world.

"It's an all-out fight," said Carvalho. "No one knows for sure how much slips through but he and his men are clearly seeing results in trying to keep the amount down."

Last year police seized a record 793 kilos (1,745 pounds) of cocaine and 60 kilos (130 pounds) of heroin - more than twice the amount seized in 1988. Arrests of consumer-traffickers nearly doubled to 2,534.

Earlier this month police seized 208 kilos (460 pounds) of South American cocaine in an international operation.

"They are taking the drug problem very seriously," said one Western diplomat about the Portuguese crackdown.

In the storeroom downstairs from Carvalho's office, police aide Anselmo Semedo Louro gestures at the piles awaiting burning and says: "This is just the tip of the iceberg."

Sacks of leaves and white powder lie stacked next to suitcases with false bottoms and plastic bags of cocaine.

Drug authorities say over-production in South America and a fall in US cocaine prices have forced smugglers to seek new markets, particularly in Europe where Portugal figures among the top five ports of entry.

With its plentiful sea and air links across the Atlantic and Mediterranean, Portugal is a convenient transit point for big centres like Frankfurt,

Milan or Zurich.

Cocaine often comes into Lisbon by direct flights from former colony Brazil or Venezuela, which has a huge Portuguese emigrant community.

Bigger quantities frequently come in containers on cargo shipments. Some drugs are carried in small boats which use Portugal's mid-Atlantic Azores Islands as a stopping point. Western diplomats say.

But not all that comes in goes out. Increasingly more cocaine is staying in Portugal and a growing local hunger for North African hashish and Asian heroin is alarming authorities.

Estimates of Portuguese drug addicts range from 5,000 to 100,000 - in a total population of 10 million - but everyone agrees the numbers are going up.

41 mutilated corpses discovered in Azad Kashmir

ISLAMABAD, May 30, (Agencies): Authorities in Pakistan-controlled Azad Kashmir on Monday night discovered mutilated bodies of 41 persons from river Jhelum near state capital Muzaffarabad, Radio Pakistan reported this morning.

It said these corpses had flowed from Indian-held Kashmir in river Jhelum into Azad Kashmir.

The state-owned radio said the representatives of refugees who were recently expelled from Indian-con-

trolled Kashmir and were now living in Muzaffarabad had appealed to the international community to take notice of this tyrannical Indian method of killing Kashmiri Muslims.

According to them Kashmiri Muslims were brutally murdered in the occupied Kashmir and their corpses thrown in river Jhelum which flows from Indian Kashmir to Pakistani part of Kashmir (Azad Kashmir).

In Srinagar, Kashmiri Muslims postponed prayer meeting in memory of a

murdered religious leader today after Indian authorities refused to relax a curfew.

Tens of thousands of people from all over the Kashmir valley had gathered in Srinagar, heart of a revolt against Indian rule, to pray for Moulvi Mohammad Farooq.

Farooq, hereditary leader of Kashmiri Muslims, was killed at his home on May 21 by unidentified gunmen. At least 50 people were killed when security forces opened fire on mourners

later that day.

The prayers will be postponed indefinitely, according to announcements from loudspeakers on dozens of Srinagar mosques, a common method of communication during curfews.

About 40,000 of Farooq's followers had arrived in Srinagar to take part in the prayers and were given shelter in mosques. Thousands of others were stranded outside Srinagar because of the curfew, organisers of the meeting

said.

Authorities relaxed the curfew in central Srinagar today for the meeting but not in other parts of the city.

Militants, angered by the government's move, imposed their own curfew on the central area.

Girish Saxena, the new governor of Jammu and Kashmir state, appealed to Kashmiris today to co-operate with his administration and asked militants to surrender their arms.

Saxena, a former head of India's

foreign intelligence service, was sworn in as governor on Saturday.

Police said Muslim militants killed two Hindus in incidents in Srinagar.

Police identified the victims as J. Wanchoo and Maharaj Krishan, who were killed because militants suspected them of being police informers.

In another incident, Muslim separatists shot and wounded Hakim Yasin, a former Kashmir state minister, police said.

Fijians will go to polls in 1991

SUVA, May 30, (AP): Fiji's interim prime minister said today that the country will adopt a new constitution within months and hold elections next year.

"The new constitution will guarantee and protect the fundamental rights and freedoms of every citizen in our country," Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara said in a speech to major donor countries and aid organisations in Geneva.

"We hope to have our new constitution promulgated in another few months and that will prepare the way for general elections to be held in the country next year and for the country to return to parliamentary government."

Mara's announcement comes despite criticism of the draft constitution by the Indian-dominated opposition coalition that was ousted from power by two racially inspired coups in 1987.

The coalition leader, Adi Kuini Bavandra, who is currently visiting Australia, has maintained the draft is racist, undemocratic and discriminates against ethnic Indians, who were the majority at the time of the coups but now make up just under half of the country's 720,000 people.

Last week, Fiji ordered the Indian embassy here closed after New Delhi vowed to step up an international campaign against the proposed constitution. India has branded the draft "institutionalised racism."

In his speech to the United Nations-sponsored aid talks, Mara said those who staged the military coups had wanted guarantees and protection placed in the constitution for "the rights and aspirations of the indigenous Fijian people who settled Fiji over 3,500 years ago."

"The military actions are now history," he said. "A civilian interim government took office in December 1987 with the commitment to return the country to parliamentary government as soon as possible."

Karachi violence flares

24 more killed: Benazir rushes to Hyderabad

KARACHI, May 30, (Agencies): Gunfire ricocheted through Pakistan's largest city for a fourth day today, killing 24 more people in ethnic bloodshed that threatens Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's political power base, police said.

Despite around-the-clock curfews clamped on widespread sections, sniper shootings erupted in other parts of Karachi, the country's financial and industrial hub, police said.

Three of the victims were gunned down in Clifton, the posh neigh-

bourhood where the prime minister maintains a home, police said. Today's killings raised to 105 the death toll since Sunday, officials said.

The continuing bloodshed has triggered daylong strikes in other cities across Pakistan, mounting criticism of Benazir and appeals from all quarters for her to do something to stop the violence that plagues Sind province.

Police blame the current violence on a militant faction of the Mohajir

Qaumi Movement.



Curfew-relaxation

Pakistan army troops stand near a gun-mounted jeep during curfew-relaxation hours in Karachi, May 29.

Eight more people died in violence yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Pakistani army official in Iran

TEHRAN, May 30, (UPI): A top military commander from Pakistan arrived in Iran's southeastern Sistan and Baluchistan Province yesterday to co-ordinate with the authorities in the war against trafficking in narcotic drugs, the official Islamic Republic News Agency said.

Maj. Gen. Mohammad Khalid, top army commander in Pakistan's Baluchistan province, told Iran his forces were in a state of readiness to combat drug trafficking, and he was in Zahedan to discuss co-ordination with the Iranian disciplinary forces.

"We have come to Iran to review border issues and discuss co-operation of the disciplinary forces of the two countries against drug smugglers and bandits," Khalid said. He spoke to Irna at Zahedan,

some 700 miles (1,120 km) southeast of Tehran.

Khalid said Pakistan has strengthened its disciplinary forces and would deal decisively with drug traffickers, bandits and counter-revolutionaries, extraditing to Iran any caught crossing over to the Pakistan side of the border.

The Baluchi tribal region straddles the border between Iran and Pakistan, and has recently been the scene of fierce clashes on the Iranian side between security forces and armed men described as drug traffickers and insurgents.

The two countries recently agreed to co-ordinate their operations against drug traffickers in the border areas.

Coup fear drags market

Dissidents may try to oust Cory

MANILA, May 30, (AP): The country's major stock market posted its largest single-day drop of the year today after the acting military chief said dissident soldiers may try to oust President Corason Aquino next month.

Also today, four suspected communist rebels killed a neighbourhood official.

The Manila stock exchange's composite index fell 62.57 points to 798.15, down 7.26 per cent from yesterday's close. Traders cited a statement yesterday by Maj. Gen. Rodolfo Biazon that military rebels may stage a new coup attempt in June.

"The market has been fluid in the past weeks and statements on the possibility of another coup attempt dragged the market lower," said Harry Lij, President of Summit Securities Inc.

Traders said investors fear new political instability. In a radio interview, Biazon said intelligence reports indicated mutineers may time their next putsch to protests next month by students angry over tuition increases and by workers seeking higher pay.

He also cited the expected resumption of talks by the United States and the Philippines on extending the lease on six US military bases, which expires in September 1991.

"All these will provide the conditions for them to stage a coup d'etat," Biazon said. "But as I have told you before, they have failed six times, they will fail again if they try it."

Biazon, the vice-chief of staff, has been serving as acting chief while Gen. Renato de Villa is in the United States, where his wife is undergoing medical treatment.

Last December thousands of mutineers launched a bloody coup attempt in which 113 people were killed and more than 600 injured. It was the sixth and strongest bid to topple Aquino since she took office in the 1986 uprising against the late president Ferdinand Marcos.

On Wednesday, police said four gunmen believed to be communist rebels ambushed a vehicle carrying Ricardo Apalit, 49, a neighbourhood ward leader, in suburban Paranaque. The gunmen escaped.

A military court today denied a defence petition asking bail for two generals and 19 other officers charged in connection with the December coup attempt against Aquino.

The court's denial of the bail plea and two other petitions prompted defence attorneys to accuse the tribunal of attempting to "railroad" the proceedings.

Confusion over Kashmir

(Continued from Page 1)

Fernandes' attempts to negotiate with militants brought him into conflict with former Kashmir governor Jagmohan, who quit last week accused by the left of overseeing security force excesses but defended by right-wing Hindus.

Singh nominated Jagmohan to a seat in the Rajya Sabha (upper house of parliament), where the former governor sought in vain to make his maiden speech today after his opening claim to have saved

Kashmir from secession to Pakistan caused nearly two hours of uproar.

Some 50 members of parliament from Singh's own Janata Dal party demanded yesterday that he sack Home (Interior) Minister Mufi Mohammad Sayeed. They accused Sayeed of seeking his own political ends in Kashmir and dubbed him "the biggest obstacle" to peace there.

India's former foreign intelligence chief Girish Saxena has taken over as governor of Kashmir.

CBS tries to quash subpoena

NEW YORK, May 30, (AP): Lawyers for CBS News yesterday tried to quash a subpoena to have television journalist Diane Sawyer testify at the racketeering trial of Imelda Marcos, offering instead to have a news division employee appear in her place.

US District Judge John Keenan reserved decision on the matter, although he did say Sawyer's 1986 Marcos interview appeared relevant to the prosecution's case.

Marcos is being tried on charges that she and her late husband, former Philippine president Ferdinand Marcos, conspired to buy New York real estate, art and jewelry with \$222 million stolen from their homeland.

Prosecutors want Sawyer to verify a CBS News broadcast interview she conducted with Marcos, a portion of which the government wants to introduce as evidence.

Helen Gold, a CBS attorney, offered to present a news division employee to testify to the accuracy and fairness of the Marcos interview.

The segment involves the former First Lady of the Philippines denying that the signature "Jane Ryan," retrieved from secret Swiss bank accounts allegedly owned by the Marcoses, is hers.

Sawyer currently co-anchors the weekly ABC news programme "Prime Time Live."

Gold said the interview itself was on "50 videocassettes, lasting hours and hours, and the transcript of which is pounds and pounds in weight."

"Anybody ever interviewed on television knows only about 1-50th (of the interview) ever ends up on television," said the judge.

Fighting erupted anew on May 15 and so far has left more than 300 people dead and more than 1,000 injured and forced most of Karachi and the province's second largest city, Hyderabad, to be placed under indefinite curfews.

"Karachi-Hyderabad burning. Murder and destruction all around. Life is at a standstill. All economic activity is in abeyance in both curfew and non-curfew areas," said a front-page advertisement by the Pakistan Manufacturers and Exporters Association in national newspapers.

"We sincerely appeal to you Madam Prime Minister to camp in Karachi and personally oversee the urgent restoration of peace," the ad said.

Opposition politicians have called repeatedly on Benazir to dismiss the provincial government headed by her Pakistan People's Party and to declare a state of emergency, a move she has so far resisted.

"To declare an emergency — a mini martial law — would be admitting total failure in her own political power base. It would be political suicide," said one Commonwealth diplomat, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Government sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Benazir would not declare an emergency but would order the army to help the civilian administration restore law and order.

Many Sind residents say they want the army to restore law and order and to keep paramilitary troops and police at a distance.

Heavily-armed soldiers already are patrolling parts of Karachi and Hyderabad.

The death toll in four days of ethnic violence in Sind rose to 200 today as Benazir visited Hyderabad, scene of some of the worst bloodletting.

Strict security was in force with troops patrolling the streets as she arrived in Hyderabad which has been largely peaceful since the weekend when about 100 people were killed.

The premier arrived in Hyderabad from Karachi where authorities cancelled a planned curfew break because of the renewed violence.

Official sources said Benazir blames both the MQM and the Sindhi nationalist Jiyee Sind movement for helping the gunmen and creating the latest upsurge of violence.

The ruling Pakistan People's Party has been at virtual war with the MQM since last October when Mohajir leader Altaf Hussain defected to the opposition, seriously weakening Benazir's position in Parliament.

Efforts to start a dialogue have so far failed, and Benazir has told her closest advisers she refuses to talk to anybody she considers a terrorist, the official sources said.

Snakes drive rescuers away

DHAKA, May 30, (Reuters): Snake-charmer Shabidul Islam was killed along with two other people when a bus plunged off a highway and his escaped snakes kept potential rescuers away from the 30 people injured in the crash, police said today.

Villagers alerted by screaming passengers rushed to help after last night's accident in Bangladesh but ran off in panic when they saw five or six snakes slithering around inside the vehicle.

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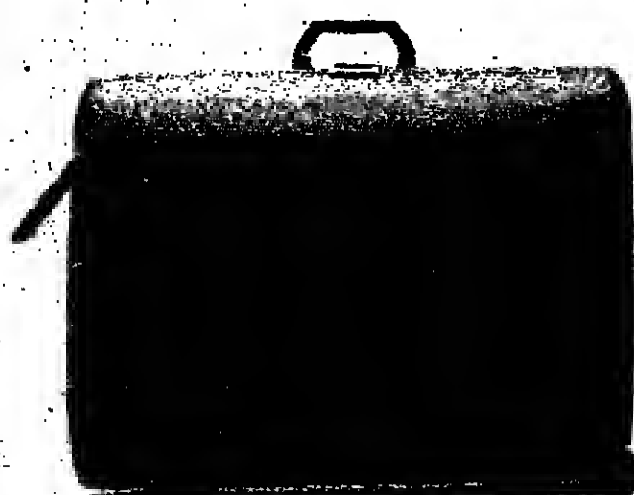
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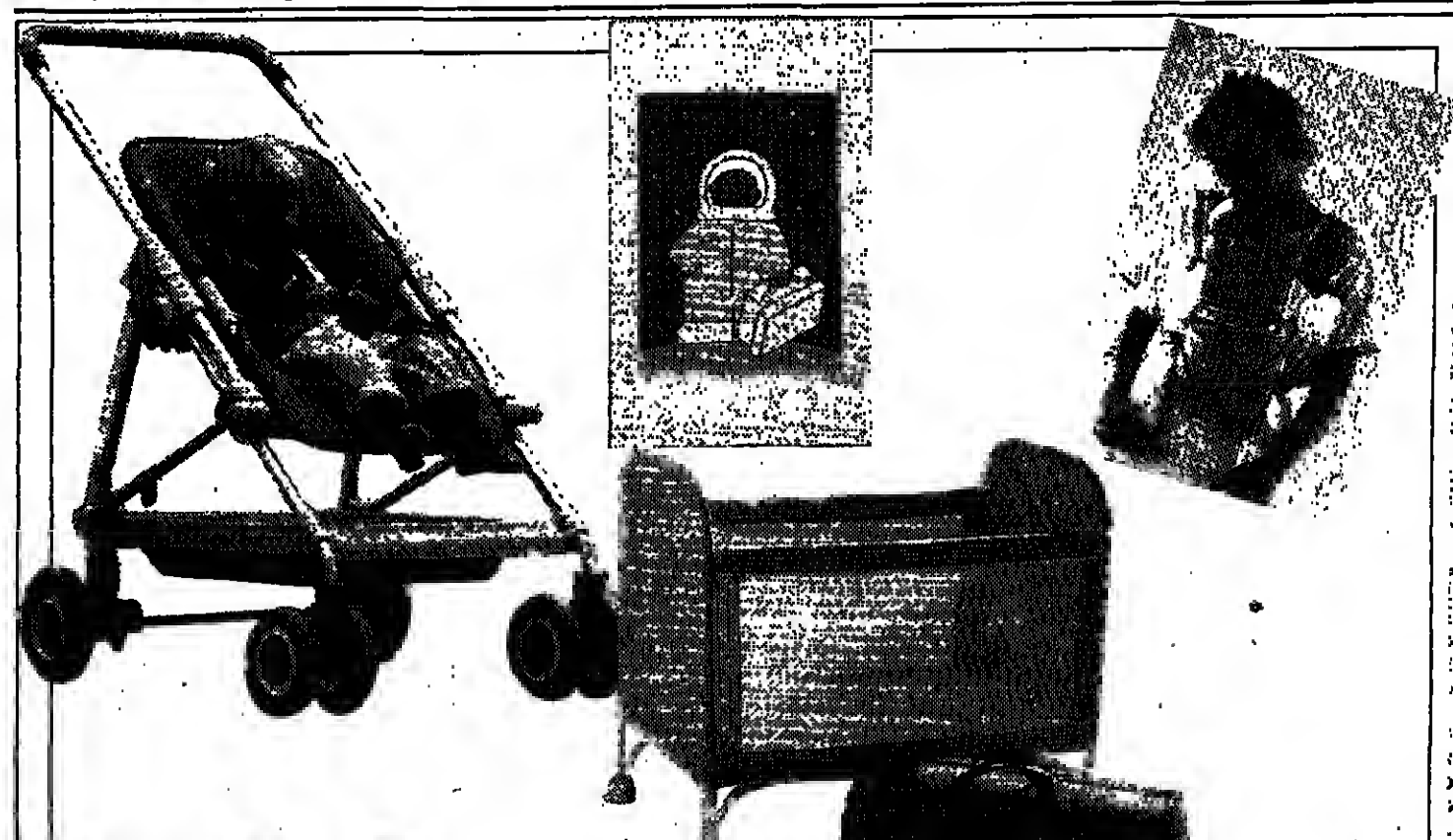


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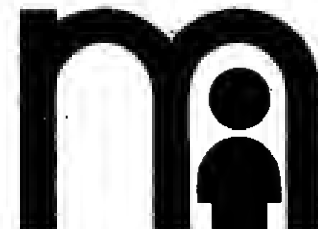
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INTERNATIONAL

Fear and chaos in Monrovia

MONROVIA, Liberia, May 30. (AP): Frightened families have been packing clothing, bedding, pots and pans on pickup trucks and fleeing the city amid rumours that rebels are closing in on the capital.

In recent days, the fighting between government troops and the rebels moved to within 35 miles (55 kms) of Monrovia, sparking visas to escape.

"We don't want to be slaughtered," a Liberian of the Mandingo tribe said while waiting at the embassy.

The beleaguered government of President Samuel Doe has been broadcasting appeals for the public to "go about

your normal business" and refrain from panic. But government officials themselves appeared nervous.

Diplomats said Doe, who took power in a 1980 coup, has been moving from one location to another during the night. His presidential jet and an army plane were kept at the ready at an airfield in the capital.

Some government ministers have apparently fled the country. According to news reports and Western officials who met government leaders, the portfolios for foreign affairs, internal affairs and information were being handled by acting ministers.

Diplomats report about 2,000 soldiers have deserted the army — nearly half of the total armed forces before the government began conscription this year.

No authoritative word on the latest fighting in the 5-month-old insurgency was available Tuesday.

But broadcast reports quoted rebel leader Charles Taylor as claiming his troops had been attacking soldiers around the country's main airport, an hour's drive from Monrovia.

Businessmen in the area said the airport remained open, and British Airways said its flights were still arriving.

Doctors in the capital confirmed they have set up a committee and mapped out emergency plans to deal with casualties if the city is attacked.

The military appeared less prepared. Scheffelin barracks, which would be the last line of defence between the rebels' front line and Monrovia, appeared deserted except for a half-dozen soldiers at a roadblock.

Taxi drivers said lines of vehicles piled high with refugees' belongings were causing a traffic jam at the border with Sierra Leone. The United Nations dispatched a team from Sierra Leone's capital to the border yesterday to assess the situation.

De Klerk puts off trip to States

JOHANNESBURG, May 30. (Reuters): South African President F.W. de Klerk has put off indefinitely his planned meeting next month with President George Bush in the United States to avoid anti-apartheid agitation there and to focus on problems at home.

De Klerk did not want a troubled US trip to spoil the good impression made by his nine-state European tour which ended last week. Foreign Minister P.W. Botha said yesterday.

"The president feels that he has had a successful European visit. Why take the risk of mar- rying or fouling up all the good results by some controversy in the United States?" Botha told state-run television.

A government source said the trip was scuppered by US black leaders including the Rev. Jesse Jackson, who opposed Bush seeing De Klerk before the US leader met African National Congress (ANC) Deputy President Nelson Mandela on June 25.

The visit was now unlikely this year, the source added.

De Klerk said in a statement that he postponed the trip because of controversy and "because certain important mat- ters would require my personal attention during the next few weeks."

"President Bush stands by his invitation and I will follow it up later, at a time when it can make a more positive contribu- tion to our mutual relations," he added.

De Klerk and Mandela this month began preliminary talks on a new constitution, under which power will be shared be- tween whites and the currently voiceless black majority.

While De Klerk has argued that Western nations should reward his reforms by lifting economic sanctions, Mandela wants them tightened. So far, De Klerk has won only very minor Western concessions to show his electorate.

Mandela, recuperating in a Johannesburg hospital after an unspecified minor operation, has promised to trace De Klerk's footsteps around Europe in June, undoing all his achieve- ments.

The Park Lane Clinic's general manager, Gordon Cohen, said on Tuesday: "Mr Mandela won't be discharged today or to- morrow."

"He is mainly resting before he leaves on Monday (June 4) for Europe," he said, refusing to give details of the operation.

Tom Langley, a spokesman for the right-wing white Con- servative Party (CP), said one reason why De Klerk called off the US trip was because he could not match the warmth of the reception Mandela could expect in the United States.

Such an unfavourable com- parison could only harm De Klerk among white voters who are already deserting him, Lan- gley said.

According to Botha, the ANC did not orchestrate the con- troversy surrounding De Klerk's planned visit. "The ANC have not knocked us out of the United States," he said.

In Washington, White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said De Klerk had not been asked to postpone the meeting with Bush and was welcome to visit the United States at any conven- ient future time.

European Economic Com- munity development commis- sioner Manuel Marín expressed concern on Tuesday about reports of political violence in Africa and hinted that future EEC aid might be made con- ditional on respect for human rights.

"We are concerned by the news we are hearing on the political situation in some coun- tries, and above all in West Africa," Marín said at a news conference after a meeting of development ministers from the 12 EEC member states.

Malaysia hangs eight

Mass execution for drug charges: appeals rejected

TAIPEI, Malaysia, May 30. (Reuters): Eight Hong Kong people convicted of drug trafficking were hanged today after efforts to save them, including an appeal from the British government, failed to sway Malaysian authorities.

The seven men and one woman died in the biggest mass hanging in Malaysia, a predominantly Muslim nation of 17 million people.

Six men were executed in a prison in the northern town of Taiping, which means 'eternal peace' in Chinese.

Three were hanged at 3.15 am (1915 GMT on Tuesday) and three at 4.40 am (2040 GMT), a British high commission official said.

The seventh man and the woman — who had fallen in love in jail and had wanted to marry — went to the gallows nearly 200 km (120 miles) away in Kajang prison on the outskirts of Kuala Lumpur at 5.45 am (2145 GMT), lawyer Karpal Singh said.

A large crowd outside the 111-year-old prison in Taiping, which has three sets of gallows, heard the sound of the trapdoors opening twice.

Shortly after, inmates were heard shouting in Chinese, "they are here," a reference to the arrival of the doctor and magistrate who confirmed the deaths.



A Malaysian prison guard with a high-powered automatic rifle stands beside the truck carrying the two caskets of Chow Sing and Hau Tsui Ling who were hanged yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)



Han Tsui Ling



Chow Sing

Love blossomed

KAJANG, Malaysia, May 30. (Reuters): Love had blossomed behind prison walls between a car dealer and a nightclub waitress, both from Hong Kong, who were hanged today in Malaysia for drugs offences.

Chow Sing, 42, had fallen in love with Hau Tsui Ling, 32, although they were kept in separate cells for eight years in Kajang prison on the outskirts of the capital, Kuala Lumpur, according to Chow's lawyer, Karpal Singh.

"They had planned to get married. They were quite close and saw each other almost every week," Singh told reporters outside the walls of Malaysia's largest prison shortly after the pair were hanged. "Their dreams were shattered."

"Chow had been insisting that Hau also be present during prison visits I made," Singh said. Hau, the first foreign woman to be hanged in Malaysia, leaves behind former husband Wong Kwok Chung, whom she met for five hours yesterday, and their daughter, Hau Sze Man, 13.

Chow, a former policeman in the British colony, had made arrangements through Singh for Hau Sze Man's foster mother to take care of his own daughter, Chow Man Wai.



Donate corneas

Two of eight Hong Kong nationals scheduled to hang at dawn Wednesday for drug trafficking want to donate their corneas to give eyesight to others.

Their counsel, Karpal Singh, told reporters Tuesday the two were company director Ng Yiu Kwok (left) and waiter Li Chi Ping (right).

A British high commission representative would provide them with the necessary documents for such a donation, Karpal Singh said. (Reuters wirephoto)



A truck carrying the bodies of the six executed Hong Kong drug smugglers leaves the Taiping prison yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)



Grieving relatives of the executed smuggler Chan Yiu Tim leave the cemetery after paying their respects in Taiping. (Reuters wirephoto)

Donors taking a tougher stand towards helping out African countries

NAIROBI, May 30. (Reuters): Many parts of Africa, devastated by wars and drought, stand on the verge of a new famine.

But the rest of the world — its attention caught by revolutionary change in Eastern Europe — is taking a tougher stand towards helping out the poorest continent.

From Angola to Rwanda, a Reuters survey has shown that some promised food aid is arriving late and appeals for more are receiving a less sympathetic hearing than in previous years.

United Nations officials say emergency appeals are having less impact for a variety of reasons ranging from increased competition for funds, inaccurate statistics, poor use of previous aid, and a failure to end bloody interethnic conflicts.

"It's hard to tell why," said one relief official in the small Central African state of Rwanda.

"Maybe we are seeing a bit of the effect of the West shifting its interest to Eastern Europe... or maybe people are getting tired of famine."

Aid experts say people and governments have not lost interest, but want to know the money will be well-spent.

"The face of the starving African child no longer works on its own. Now, we have to stress the positive aspects as well — people growing their own food and so on," said Robert Koepf of the Lutheran World Federation in Nairobi.

Aid experts say wars in Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan, Mozambique and Angola are the single biggest discouragement to potential donors.

"The dam has burst, they see change in South Africa and Eastern Europe and say 'what are these guys still fighting for? People are fed up and want it to end before they help out,'" Koepf said.

Some African countries are also paying the price of having overestimated their needs in the past, while others such as Ethiopia have recurring crises which no amount of aid seems able to prevent.

"This is the fourth time in a row that we have had to appeal so there may be a feeling on the part of the donor community that there are other more deserving areas," said Peter Simkin, UN special co-ordinator for emergency relief operations in Mozambique.

He said he foresaw "large-scale famine and

death" unless the money came in to ferry food by air to more than 200,000 people beyond the reach of road shipments.

Mozambique's transport network is in ruins after more than a decade of attacks by Renamo rebels. Food convoys have been a frequent target in the past.

Aid experts said there was a clear feeling among some Western governments that Mozambique could not be funded indefinitely while the war goes on and the government must be prodded into a peace agreement with Renamo.

"This is largely a war about food. Food aid gives the government a powerful weapon for stalling on a settlement," said an aid expert, based in Zimbabwe, who declined to be named.

'China could face strife'

Call for reforms

BEIJING, May 30. (Reuters): A Chinese dissident freed from jail this month vowed to continue to speak out and called on his country's communist leaders to adopt political reforms like those pushed by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Zhou Duo also said if China failed to reform it could risk a political explosion on the death of elderly leader Deng Xiaoping.

"I must speak out to remind our leaders to push reforms ahead," the 43-year-old dissident said in an interview late yesterday.

"I want to use my voice for peaceful change to help my country move toward this goal of following Gorbachev."

Zhou was one of four hunger strikers in Beijing's central Tiananmen Square when the army moved in on June 4 to crush a democracy campaign.

He and two of his companions at the time, singer Hou Dejian and former editor Gao Xin, plan to release an open letter to the government calling for the freeing of political prisoners.

The fourth hunger-striker, Liu Xiaobo, is still in jail.

The bespectacled and bookish-looking dissident was an adviser to the Stone Group Company, but it is unclear whether he will get his job back.



Zhou released from prison (shown above) vows to continue to speak out. (Reuters wirephoto)

Stone was accused of aiding the democracy campaign and its chief, Wan Runnan, fled China.

Zhou, arrested last June, was one of 211 prisoners released this month. No charges have been filed against him.

During his interrogation, he admitted his protest in Tiananmen Square violated martial law.

"But the objective of our hunger strike was to protest against martial law," he said, adding that he believes his activities were otherwise legal.

Zhou said he was held briefly in a jail outside Beijing and then moved to guest houses around the suburbs. Security was tight, but he was not physically abused or threatened during his 10-month detention.

He was told he was being released because his investigation was over, but he said he believed it was partly to improve the political climate before the anniversary of the armed assault on Beijing.

"It also may have been the result of foreign pressure," he said.

Shortly after the release of this group of prisoners, US President George Bush recommended China retain its most-favoured-nation trade status, maintaining lower tariffs on goods from this country.

A withdrawal of that special treatment could have cost China \$10 billion a year in lost business in the vital American market, according to Chinese officials.

Zhou also accused China's aged leaders of turning back the clock, clamping down on unorthodox views and undermining the opening to the outside world that began in 1978.

"Their policies are a negation of the economic reforms. I look at the newspapers and television now and I feel like it is the Mao Tse-tung era," he said.

China's hardline Marxist leaders have achieved stability for the moment through tough measures against dissent, according to Zhou.

One year after China's bloody Tiananmen Square military crackdown on dissidents the three main groups opposing the communist government, based in Hong Kong, Paris and Washington, are shot with factional strife and losing public support.

Although all three groups are committed to the promotion of democracy in China, relations among them are poor.

The Washington-based Chinese Alliance for Democracy and the Paris-based Front for Democratic China have discussed joining forces since last October, but a marriage is not imminent.

"We are both very large and geographically dispersed organisations. We agreed in principle that an alliance is good for the movement, but many differences have to be ironed out," said Hu Ping, chairman of the Chinese Alliance in a telephone interview with Reuters.

The State Department said Tuesday it has received numerous reports of torture by Chinese authorities in Tibet, and it called on China to take effective measures to guard against such abuses.

State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler said the reports received by US officials coincide with those contained in a study by Asia Watch, a private human rights group.

Taiwan premier names cabinet

TAIPEI, May 30. (AP): The general appointed as premier named a civilian defence minister and two independent politicians to his cabinet today in a bid to allay concerns he will lead Taiwan back to authoritarian rule.

The ruling Nationalist Party's policy-making central standing committee approved the new 25-member cabinet named by Defence Minister Hau Pei-Tsun, who will be sworn in as premier on Friday.

Hau, 70, the nation's only four-star general, was selected by President Lee Teng-Hui this month to head the cabinet and was approved as premier by the national legislature yesterday.

Opposition politicians and intellectuals have called the appointment of a military strongman to head the cabinet a step backward for democracy and have held several demonstrations against Hau.

But other people have expressed hope the new government can restore social stability in a country experiencing a surge in crime and widespread corruption.

"This is a democratic era and the democratic wagon shall only move forward," Hau told reporters today.

His cabinet includes six new members, three members who are changing portfolio and 15 ministers who are keeping their old positions.

Several key ministers have close ties to Lee, and others are seen as loyal to Hau, which could mean continued infighting over whether the president or premier should wield the most political power.

Among the major cabinet changes, Economics Minister Chen Li-An, 53, will be the new defence minister, a post usually filled by a military man.

Some analysts believe Chen can ensure the powerful military remains under civilian control, but others are sceptical because his family has close ties to the armed forces.

The Nationalists, who have dominated politics on Taiwan since they fled the China Mainland in 1949 after losing a civil war to communist forces, have in recent years gradually eased their authoritarian grip on politics.

The Nationalists lifted martial law and allowed the formation of opposition political parties. In a further move to democratise Taiwan, the party has vowed to retire all its aging members who belong to the legislature and electoral college.

Jakarta, Beijing to resume ties

JAKARTA, May 30. (AP): Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said today that normalisation of relations with China, suspended for 23 years, is possible this year after he visits Beijing in early July.

He told a news conference that an announcement on the resumption of diplomatic relations would depend on his discussions with Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen in Beijing.

"If God permits, normalisation of relations with China could be announced this year."

Rocard, opposition leaders fail to agree on immigration

PARIS, May 30, (UPI): A meeting between the Socialist government and rightwing opposition leaders on the thorny question of immigration ended without agreement on a charter of basic principles and amid charges that the government has no policy on the issue.

Opposition leaders refused to sign a statement of fundamental principles dealing with political asylum, the right to rejoin family members already in France, and

modifications to the naturalisation law. "On the problem of foreigners in France, the government has no policy and in fact does nothing," former prime minister Jacques Chirac said after the yesterday session.

Rocard had rejected all opposition proposals and had failed to answer its questions. "We are in disagreement over everything except that the tolerance level on the number of foreigners in France has been reached," Rocard insisted that the meet-

ing demonstrated "the unanimous will to control the flow of immigrants and to work at integrating into society those foreigners who are here legally."

The meeting between the government and all of the country's political parties with the exception of the extreme rightwing National Front took place at a time of increasing racial tension in France.

Earlier this month vandals desecrated 34 tombstones and emplaced the body of an 80-year-old man in a Jewish cemetery in the town

of Carpentras in southern France.

The action, which sparked a country, profoundly shocked France and brought the festering issues of anti-Semitism, racism and immigration to the forefront of the political debate.

Political analysts said the round table meeting with the opposition was an attempt by the government to isolate the National Front, whose leader, Jean-Marie Le Pen has been widely blamed for creating a climate of racism that led to the vandalism at Carpentras.

Le Pen has been on the defensive since the incident, with several mayors prohibiting National Front meetings in their cities and calls in the press to ignore him and his movement.

The most emotional issue between the government and the opposition is over a proposal to give foreigners the right to vote in local elections. Although the Socialist Party recently agreed to postpone any decision on the subject, the opposition wants the government to formally renounce the idea, some-

thing Rocard has refused to do.

The right is also calling for tougher measures to govern the right of asylum and the right of foreigners to join families legally established in France. It also wants changes in the nationality code to make it more difficult for children born in France of foreign parents to acquire French citizenship.

A petrol bomb was thrown at a motel occupied by refugees early today, the eighth such attack in a week of violence against Sweden's liberal immigration policy.

Valente defied custody ruling

Freed hostage jailed

PARIS, May 30, (AP): Jacqueline Valente, freed in Beirut in April after more than two years as a hostage, was sentenced to two months in prison today for taking two daughters from her ex-husband in defiance of a custody ruling.

Prosecutors had requested only a one-month suspended sentence during the hearing in Toulon, but the presiding judge, Andre Fortin, decided to impose a harsher penalty.

He said Ms Valente, 32, had committed a "premeditated kidnapping" in 1983 and expressed irritation that she refused to answer questions about the mysterious circumstances of her own abduction.

Ms Valente was allowed to remain free pending an appeal and possible medical tests. She was sentenced to six months in prison, four of which were suspended.

The case dates back to August 1983, when Ms Valente refused to take her daughters — Marie-Laure and Virginie — back to their father after one

of their regular visits with her.

No word was heard about Ms Valente and the girls until November 1987, when a Fatah-Revolutionary Council — a Libyan-backed Palestinian group led by Abu Nidal — declared it had taken them hostage, along with five Belgians also aboard a yacht in the Mediterranean.

The two girls were freed in 1988, and Ms Valente was freed April 10, along with her Belgian companion Fernand Houtekins, and their own daughter, Sophie-Liberte.

Prior to the release, Sophie-Liberte had been widely described as a 2-year-old born in captivity. But relatives and others, after meeting her in person, agreed she was at least 4, leading to press speculation that the yacht was seized much earlier than previously reported.

Newspapers also reported that the hostages had been kept in Libya, despite their claims they were held in Lebanon, and had been abducted by the Libyan Navy, not by Abu Nidal's group.

Japan's illegal labour in panic

TOKYO, May 30, (AP): Thousands of illegal foreign workers are streaming to immigration offices to be deported after false rumours they would be arrested under a new law that goes into effect Friday.

"We're all here because of the immigration law," said Ali Altai, 22, gesturing to a crowd of more than 1,000 foreign workers who had gathered by a government immigration office in downtown Tokyo.

"We think that if we continue to work after June 1, we may be arrested, may go to prison," said Altai, a Pakistani who has lived in Japan for 18 months. "We can't work. It's destroying our minds."

Actually, existing law subjects illegal workers to fines of 300,000 yen (\$2,000) or three years in prison, but arrests are rare. Workers who have recently turned themselves in are being deported, since it is easier than punishing them, immigration officials say.

Under the new law, employers or brokers of illegal aliens face sanctions for the first time. They can be imprisoned for up to three years or fined as much as 2 million yen (\$13,300). But an immunity clause means the increased penalties do not apply to employers who hired undocumented workers before Friday.

The new law tightens controls over workers by requiring those holding work visas to obtain certificates that will enable authorities and employers to check their visa status.

Increasing numbers of citizens from underdeveloped countries working illegally in Japan have prompted a new law that increases penalties for employers of the workers. Immigration officials say it is an effort to contain the profiteering of employers and brokers who promote the entry and employment of foreign workers.

About 100,000 illegal aliens work in Japan, which has a severe labour shortage and offers high wages.

Small business owners, feeling the crunch of the labour shortage, favour more liberal rules for foreign unskilled workers. Human rights groups contend stiffer controls will worsen work and living conditions for illegal aliens because employers will simply hide them from authorities.

But the tide of government and public opinion is against those who object to the new law. Many fear foreign workers will settle here, working fundamental changes in the fabric of Japan's homogeneous society.



Disgruntled shopper

A disgruntled shopper remonstrates with workers at a state-run fruit and vegetable market Bucharest on May 29 who have just told him they have nothing to sell. (Reuters wirephoto)

Burma opposition claims more seats in national legislature

RANGOON, May 30, (AP): The opposition National League for Democracy claimed today to have captured 371 out of 485 seats in a parliament that may restore democracy to the country.

League spokesman Kyi Maung said an unofficial tally showed his party leading with at least 371 seats in the national legislature.

The last official count from Sunday's

general election showed the league had won 71 of the 77 seats decided, with other seats going to parties allied with the pro-democracy League and representing the Shan ethnic minority group.

The official count apparently lags behind unofficial tallies because signed certificates must be sent from polling stations nationwide to the election commission in Rangoon.

The official newspaper Working People's Daily said 76 per cent of the eligible voters turned out for the election, Burma's first multi-party polls in 30 years.

The military government, which still rules by martial law decree, has promised to turn power over to the civilians once a new constitution is completed and a strong government is in place.

The election has proved a massive defeat

for the pro-military National Unity Party. Burma's military authorities today expelled a BBC journalist who they said was covering national assembly elections without a proper visa.

The official Working People's Daily newspaper said Lindsey Chanson was illegally reporting news for the British Broadcasting Corporation's Burmese and English-language radio broadcasts.

Colour ceremony

Queen Elizabeth II inspects the First Battalion Welsh Guards during a new colour ceremony on the lawns of Buckingham Palace. (Reuters wirephoto)

Boat people in for long wait

Rather die than return

HONG KONG, May 30, (AP): Nguyen Van Nam pondered his future while seated at his "home" at the High Island detention centre, the middle tier of a three-level bunk bed he shares with his wife and two children.

No, he insisted through an interpreter, he would not go back to his communist homeland if Hong Kong refused to grant him refugee status.

"We would rather be dead here than go back to Vietnam," he said.

Several other High Island residents gave similar responses in interviews yesterday, a sign that the days of tranquility for what has been a model detention centre for Vietnamese boat people may be numbered.

So far, High Island has been free of the rioting, mass escapes and occasional suicide attempts that have plagued other detention centres for boat people since 51 Vietnamese were repatriated against their will last year.

The government has refused to allow journalists into any detention centre since that deportation, citing safety concerns.

But in recent days, small groups of journalists have been taken to High Island in an apparent attempt by the government to put the best face on the camp. Squalid living conditions in Hong Kong's camps have drawn international criticism.

"We have at the moment a happy camp," police superintendent R. L. Nicholls said of the High Island centre, located in a country park about an hour's drive from downtown Hong Kong. But, he added, "we don't think the complexion of this camp will last much longer."

A major reason High Island

has remained relatively calm is almost none of its 7,000 residents has gone through the screening process to determine who will be repatriated and who will be resettled.

By contrast, nearly 8,000 of the 22,000 Vietnamese at the volatile Whitehead detention centre have been informed they will not be granted refugee status. Security forces have fired tear gas to quell rising and uncovered hundreds of homemade weapons in the camp in recent months.

Hong Kong's camps now house about 55,000 Vietnamese who have fled to the British colony. Nearly 11,000 are considered refugees, another 10,500 are considered illegal immigrants and the remainder are awaiting screening to determine their status.

The screening of High Island residents is scheduled to begin this summer. While the camp might not have all the troubles found at Whitehead, the police who manage the centre are expecting at least some disturbances.

"I'll never go back to Vietnam," said a 33-year-old man with the last name Tan, who vowed to commit suicide if the government tried to force him back.

"They can force me to go back to Vietnam only if they use my feet and hands," said Nguyen Son Ha, 49, from the northern Vietnamese province of Quang Ninh.

Several Vietnamese expressed concern about the screening process, when immigration officials determine which boat people qualify for refugee status because they fled their homeland out of a well-founded fear of persecution.

Imperial thrones brought to Tokyo

TOKYO, May 30, (AP): Thrones to be used in Emperor Akihito's coronation this fall were brought to the Imperial Palace today under heavy guard because of threats from radical leftists.

The elaborate, Chinese-style thrones were flown from Kyoto, an ancient capital in western Japan, to a military base near Tokyo by five special self-defence force helicopters late yesterday.

The thrones then were transported by truck to the Imperial Palace where they arrived just after dawn today, said an official at the prime minister's office, who requested he not be further identified.

No incidents were reported.

A spokesman for the radical, anti-monarchist Chukaku-Ha, or middle core faction, told the

Associated Press that his group has hoped to block the transfer, but did not know when it would take place.

"The secrecy and use of the military just prove how anti-people the whole thing is," the spokesman said, speaking on condition of anonymity. "But we still plan to disrupt the marriage of (Prince) Aya on June 2 and the big event (the coronation)." Aya is Akihito's youngest son.

The Chukaku-Ha has often used violence to gain publicity for its anti-monarchy views. The group claimed responsibility for firing a metal projectile at the Kyoto palace, where the thrones were stored, on Jan 8.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Domino heart transplant: A man and a woman in their early 30s were Wednesday both said to be "stable" in two Leeds hospitals, northern England, after twin heart transplant operations, it was reported.

The operations were particularly unusual because they involved taking the heart and lungs from a dead donor, placing these into the male patient, removing his heart and transplanting that into the woman, the British media said this morning.

There have been very few similar "domino" operations in the country, particularly because the precise timing needed and the compatibility of the patients' blood groups. (Kuna)

Farmer shoots peeping Tom copter: A French farmer, angered when a helicopter buzzed the swimming pool in which his wife and teenage daughters were bathing, shot at it on Tuesday, wounding the pilot and forcing him to make an emergency landing.

Aerial mapping pilot Gerard Huteaux told French radio from his hospital bed that he nearly crashed after he was hit in the leg by one of three bullets fired from a boat-hunting rifle by the irate farmer. He denied spying on the family. (Reuters)

Italy sends reinforcements: Reinforcements of riot police have been drafted into the Italian port city of Genoa to restore calm after racist attacks on African immigrants in reprisal for the stabbing of nine people by a mentally ill Tunisian.

A police spokesman said extra police were sent to Genoa from Milan after eyewitnesses reported that racist groups had set guard dogs on a group of Moroccans and thrown bottles and corrosive liquids from windows on to North Africans in the street. (Reuters)

Leopard attacks keeper: A 90 pound (41 kilogramme) Persian leopard leaped on a zoo keeper's back and sank its teeth into his neck in front of a crowd of schoolchildren, hanging on as the man screamed, "get him off get him off" witnesses said in San Francisco.

Another keeper ran to the cage and poked the leopard with a shovel until the animal released its hold. Other keepers pulled the injured man Alan Feinberg from the cage. (AP)

Athens finds water reservoirs: Strapped with a dwindling water supply because of poor winter rains, Athens has discovered it has fairly large water reservoirs dating from Roman times under the city streets, the semi-official Athens News Agency said Wednesday.

Quoting Agriculture Minister Michalis Papakonstantinou, the news agency said the reservoirs probably date from the period of the Roman Emperor Hadrian (117-138 AD) who ordered aqueducts to be built from the nearby Pendeli mountain to supply water to Athens. (UPI)



White House meeting

US President Bush meets with Chief of Staff John Sununu, Vice President Dan Quayle and Secretary of State James Baker (right) in the White House on May 29, the eve of his summit with Soviet President Gorbachev. (Reuters wirephoto) (See Page 8)

Cloud discovered near Jupiter: Astronomers reported discovery Tuesday of what may be the largest visible structure in the solar system — a 20-million-mile-long (32-million-km) cloud of sodium streaming away from Jupiter.

A team from Boston University said it has found a huge, cloud-like structure or nebula made of sodium atoms stretching from Jupiter into interplanetary space. (UPI)

Plans for nuclear dump: British Royal Navy chiefs Wednesday confirmed they are to resubmit plans for a nuclear dump at Devonport naval base, Plymouth, south west England, after a similar store was approved in Scotland.

Campaigners against the proposed new dump said nobody wants nuclear waste on their doorstep, and argued that it was a health risk.

In Scotland the facility at Rosyth Submarine Base looked set to go ahead after the admiralty satisfied the local council there on questions of safety, it was reported. (Kuna)

Scientific first: Japanese researchers at the protein research institute in Suita City recently achieved a significant scientific first.

A team designed novel synthetic protein using a computer, manufactured the protein in the laboratory and then confirmed that the protein they had made matched their original design.

The work has major implications for medicine and nutrition. (Kuna)

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KE-801	Every Friday	From Seoul	DEP. 18:40 Seoul... ARR. 01:50 (Saturday) Bahrain DEP. 03:00 (Saturday) Bahrain ARR. 05:05 (Saturday) Jeddah
KE-802	Every Saturday	From Jeddah	DEP. 19:20 Jeddah ARR. 21:20 Bahrain DEP. 22:30 Bahrain ARR. 17:20 Seoul (Sunday)

(All times are local).

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	Muscat	704555

'KGB plot sparked Prague uprising'

LONDON, May 30. (Reuters): Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel said the Soviet KGB secret police were behind a plot to replace Prague's former communist government with a moderate regime.

But the plan hatched by the country's Communist Party members backfired and sparked last year's peaceful revolution, according to the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) programme "Czech-mate: Inside the Revolution" which will be screened today.

Czechoslovak communist figures behind the unrest "were in one way or another controlled by the KGB", Havel told the BBC.

The programme claims plotters engineered student unrest in an attempt to install a government in tune with the policies of reformist Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

But the plan crumbled when an exiled member of Alexander Dubcek's 1968 Prague spring leadership refused to lead a new reformist government.

Within two weeks, mass demonstrations, sparked by the student unrest, led to the downfall of communist rule and the inauguration of leading dissident Vaclav Havel as president.

Milan Hulik, a member of a 10-man government commission set up to investigate the unrest told the BBC: "We cannot reach any other conclusion than that the whole affair had been given the blessing of the Soviet political leadership."

BBC Foreign Affairs editor John Simpson, who wrote the script for the programme, said in an article in the Times that the commission's findings revealed a group of prominent Communist Party figures and the head of the Czechoslovak secret police, General Alois Lohr, met in secret in late 1988 to hatch a plot to oust Communist Party chief Milos Jakes.

The plan, code-named Operation Wedge, called for the simulation of the death of a student at the hands of the police to turn the people against Jakes.

Secret police officer Ludek Zivcak, told the commission he infiltrated the student leadership and on Nov 17, the day of the first protest, led crowds towards Wenceslas Square.

Police and paratroopers broke up the demonstration. "There were 561 casualties and one faked death," Simpson said.

In the confusion, Zivcak fell to the ground, his body was covered by a blanket and an unmarked ambulance took him away, according to the commission.

While the protest was taking place, Lohr was dining at a secret police safe house in Prague with the deputy chairman of the KGB, General Viktor Grushko and Prague KGB chiefs.

Grushko left for Moscow the next morning.

Rumours of the death spread, angering thousands of people who poured out into the streets in daily demonstrations. But plotters miscalculated the mood of the people and thought they would be satisfied with a return to Dubcek's reform Communism.

Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier has presented Czechoslovakia's vision of continental security to ambassadors of 33 countries in an effort to find "new stability in Europe," a government official said Tuesday.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Lubos Dobrovsky told reporters that Lohr addressed ambassadors representing 31 European countries, the United States and Canada at talks in Vienna on security and co-operation in Europe.

Poland: Candidates backed by the Solidarity Trade Union held a commanding lead in the first free nationwide elections to local councils since World War II, according to unofficial results Tuesday.

Preliminary data from the General Election Commission showed that candidates of the Solidarity-backed Citizens Committee swept 59 of 60 seats in the Baltic port of Gdansk where the union was founded nearly a decade ago.

Romania: The mayor's attempt to sweep University Square free of protesters deteriorated into an argumentative standoff Wednesday morning.

Shouting "Down with communism!" and "get out, get out," about 40 demonstrators stood behind a newly reinforced metal barricade at one end of the Square and urged mayor Dan Predescu to use the trucks and heavy-duty street sweepers he had brought elsewhere to clear garbage in Bucharest.

Nicu Ceausescu was drunk when he ordered security forces to shoot at demonstrators during December's revolution, witnesses testified at his trial Tuesday.



Yeltsin covers his ears as reporters shout his name from the press gallery at the Russian federation parliament seconds after he was elected president. (Reuters wirephoto)

Yeltsin bids for coalition

Russian President poses challenge to Gorb

MOSCOW, May 30. (AP): Newly elected Russian President Boris N. Yeltsin sat down with 130 legislators in the Kremlin today to begin forming a coalition government for the largest republic in the Soviet Union.

Although most of the Russian legislators are Communist Party members, they range from radical reformers like Yeltsin to hardliners unhappy with the innovations of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Yeltsin, a frequent Gorbachev critic, won his new job yesterday on

the third ballot in the Russian congress. Lawmakers said they believed he gained the last few votes he needed by offering to guarantee a place in his government for other factions.

As President of the Russian congress, a newly created body that is the highest authority in the Russian federation, Yeltsin acts as chief executive of the republic. As the first president of a newly reorganized legislature, he will play a major role in shaping his powers and duties, which as yet are unclear.

He poses a substantial challenge to Gorbachev, both through his personal popularity and his demand that much authority be transferred from Gorbachev's central government to the republics. Russia is the largest of the Soviet Union's 15 republics, with 52 per cent of the Soviet population and three-quarters of its land.

The strapping, white-haired Yeltsin said yesterday he would seek reconciliation with Gorbachev as long as it would not hurt Russia's interests.

Legislators said Yeltsin immediately came under pressure to retain as Russian Prime Minister Alexander Vlasov, a member of the Communist Party Politburo who had been Yeltsin's rival in yesterday's balloting.

Yeltsin opened today's meeting with one condition — that one of his deputies be a woman, legislators said.

Wednesday, meeting in the ornate St George's Hall of the Grand Kremlin Palace with representatives of each political faction and each ethnic region in the Russian Federation, Yeltsin asked for two to three nominations for each ministerial post in the Russian government. He said these candidates will be presented to the full Russian congress for confirmation starting tomorrow.

The session was closed to reporters.

Gorbachev, in a bid to expand Soviet contacts with industrialised countries, will meet in San Francisco after the Washington summit with South Korean President Roh Tae-Woo, US officials said.

Briton gets 6 years for killing wife

PAPHOS, Cyprus, May 30. (AP): A court today sentenced 62-year-old retired British Army Captain Raymond Toy to six years in prison for killing his wife. "in a rage of jealousy."

Judge Minos Kormides said the sentence took account of Toy's poor health and his guilty plea to manslaughter.

Toy's attorney, Panicos Sivanides, said he will appeal the sentence because Toy "is a dying man."

Toy, who was convicted Monday suffers from cancer of the prostate, which has spread to his spine. He has been under treatment since his arrest in February.

Sivanides told the court that Toy suffered an "inordinate amount of provocation" from his 46-year-old wife Celia about impotence caused by an operation for cancer.



Biggest 'newspaper'

The world's biggest 'newspaper' a 30-metre high hot air balloon shaped like rolled-up copy of the Financial Times floats over the night sky in Tokyo, May 30 as part of celebrations marking the launching of the international business journal on the Japanese market June 5. Behind the balloon is the Tokyo Tower. (Reuters wirephoto)

All road links to be restored

Berlin Wall to fall

EAST BERLIN, May 30. (Reuters): East Germany said today it will tear down large segments of the Berlin Wall by July 2 to restore all road links severed when the barrier was built in 1961.

Government spokesman Matthias Gehler said the cabinet had discussed barriers that still confronted Germans when they travelled from East to West and vice versa.

"The government plans to solve this problem by July 2, 1990," he told a news conference. "All roads which have been cut off by the Berlin Wall for nearly 30 years will be completely cleared."

There are dozens of roads which came dead-ends when the communists built the Berlin Wall on Aug 13, 1961 to stem a westward flow of refugees.

As a peaceful revolution engulfed East Germany, the wall was breached on Nov 9 last year. East Berlin opened dozens of new crossings through the wall, but many roads are still divided by the structure.

"Obviously Western help will be needed to carry out the necessary reconstruction work," government spokesman Gehler said. He appealed to Western firms to "adopt" a section of Wall blocking a road.

Nato eyeing mixed forces

BRUSSELS, Belgium, May 30. (AP): The United States and its Nato allies are eyeing the increased use of multinational units as a way of camouflaging Western troops in a unified Germany, analysts say.

Richard Fieldhouse, senior research associate at the Natural Resources Defence Council in Washington, described the push for multinational troops as "an attempt to maintain some sort of Nato forces within Germany."

"All of this comes out of the desire to present stationed forces in a way which is more palatable to Germany and the Soviet Union," says Hans Binnendijk, director of studies at the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London.

The idea is to dilute the US presence in Germany so that it is no longer considered an occupying force and send a political signal that Washington is becoming less involved in German affairs.

Multinational forces got a boost last week when US Defence Secretary Dick Cheney and other defence chiefs of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation called for the alliance to study their use. They said they attached "particular importance" to the task.

Multinational forces — air, sea or ground units carrying the flags of a variety of nations — are nothing new to Nato.

But the fresh attention reflects the alliance's campaign to revamp its military strategy with the diminished threat from the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact.

Moreover, Nato must deal with the prospect of a unified Germany. West Germany belongs to Nato but its eastern neighbour is part of the crumbling Warsaw Pact.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev has opposed Nato membership for the merged nation, although he recently suggested it could remain in the Western alliance but must withdraw from its integrated military structure. France and Spain, both Nato allies, are outside the joint military command.

Gorby sure of German accord

'Impasse with Lithuania will be resolved'

OTTAWA, May 30. (AP): Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev said he is confident the two superpowers will agree on a formula for Germany's reunification without upsetting the balance of power in Europe.

Asked if he was optimistic about reaching agreement with the United States over Germany and its membership in Nato, Gorbachev replied, "I am sure of that. And I tell that to the American people."

Gorbachev flew to Canada yesterday for an eight-day visit before going on to Washington today for his second summit meeting with US President George Bush.

The Kremlin leader recently warned that insistence on a new, united Germany retaining West Germany's seat in the Atlantic alliance could stall the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Eastern Europe.

The Soviet Union, which lost more than 20 million soldiers and civilians to Nazi forces during World War II, has moved from outright opposition to acceptance of German reunification with assurance that a new German giant would never again pose a military threat.

Gorbachev offered his optimistic assessment during a 45-minute stroll through Ottawa's downtown shopping district after private talks with Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and, separately, with Governor General Ray Hnatyshyn, Queen Elizabeth II's personal representative in Canada.

During his walk, Gorbachev shook hands and talked with people lining police barriers and chanting "Gorby-Gorby-Gorby" the crowd burst into cheers when he signed a copy of his book, "Perestroika," for one man.

Gorbachev, accompanied by his wife, Raisa, and at least 20 bodyguards, spoke with another man who asked him about Lithuania, one of three Baltic republics seeking independence.

Gorbachev said he was confident the impasse with Lithuania could be resolved politically through a federalist system.

"Federalism allows outstanding opportunities to advance everything in the field of language, culture, et cetera," Gorbachev said through a translator.

"Look at Canada," he said, referring to a separatist movement in French-speaking Quebec province. "You have so many nationalities... If we show some good will, these problems can be solved."

Gorbachev told reporters he and Mulroney did not discuss Lithuania, but the subject was mentioned in separate talks between Joe Clark, Canada's minister for external relations, and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze. Clark said they hoped "the Lithuanian matter would be resolved by negotiation."

Gorbachev admitted concern over the election of rival Boris Yeltsin to a major job at home and called for Western help to build a new Europe — a move that could ease his mounting problems.

Talking briefly with reporters before visiting Mulroney at his residence, Gorbachev admitted his concern over Yeltsin's victory after three closely-fought ballots.

He claimed that Yeltsin has changed his public position several times in recent days and said: "If he is playing a game then we may be in for difficult times."

Gorbachev took one whiff of Canada's clear air yesterday and immediately suggested it was too good to be free.

He suggested the Canadian government tax it but Mulroney declined the suggestion, saying he had enough troubles already.

President Roh Tae-Woo might come to the United States for talks with visiting Gorbachev during the next week, a newspaper reported today.

The Pusan Ilbo in the southern port city of Pusan said a Roh-Gorbachev meeting in Washington will follow the Soviet leader's summit talks with Bush.

Former president Ronald Reagan, who once called the Soviet Union an evil empire and challenged Gorbachev three



Gorbachev and wife Raisa stand beside their limousine while visiting a popular pedestrian mall in Ottawa, May 29. (Reuters wirephoto)

Summit Side Effects

Second honeymoon?

Gorbachevs in Canada

OTTAWA, May 30. (Reuters): Are Mikhail and Raisa Gorbachev enjoying second honeymoon on their official trip to Canada or was it together in adversity that made them cling to each other's arms?

As if Kremlin leader and his wife arrived in Ottawa yesterday for a 29-hour visit, they looked more like a first couple than ever before.

Cong down the steps of Gorbachev's new presidential plane, they wear-in-arm. Sitting next to each other during official ceremonies on the airport tarmac, they whispered to each other conspiratorially.

Visit to Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's residence, Raisa watched her husband with a mixture of concern and admiration. And as they left she grabbed his arm again, almost possessively.

Whether they went on a walkabout through Ottawa's pristine and pretty streets, he couple again held hands several times and Raisa put a protective arm around her husband when the crush of the crowd became too big.

Gorbachev long ago broke with past Kremlin tradition by having a highly visible wife who goes where he goes and frequently gets her picture on the front page of Pravda.

But they do not often touch in public, and sometimes seem more like individual members of the same official delegation than a married couple. Often when Gorbachev steps off a plane, Raisa follows behind him.

But yesterday, they were the classic man-and-wife political partnership, King and queen together after an exhausting week in Moscow which made the West wonder if Gorbachev will have his job for long.

His proposed economic reforms were attacked from all sides, his prime minister threatened to resign and there were bloody clashes involving Soviet soldiers in Armenia.

As he flew to Ottawa, Gorbachev got more bad news when his aides told him one of his fiercest critics, Boris Yeltsin, had been elected President of the Russian Federation.

years ago to tear down the Berlin Wall, will meet the Soviet leader in San Francisco next Monday, Reagan's office said yesterday.

Reagan's wife, Nancy, and Raisa Gorbachev will also attend the breakfast meeting, to be held at the home of the Soviet consul-general in San Francisco, Reagan's office said.

US, Greece initial new defence pact

ATHENS, May 30. (AP): Greece and the United States today approved in principle a new defence pact allowing US military bases to remain on Greek soil for the next eight years.

"The agreement on defence has been initiated," said Kiki Mousi, press attaché of the US embassy in Athens, contacted by telephone.

The United States has four bases and about 20 smaller units around the country. Earlier this year, Washington announced it was closing two of the bases as part of a world-wide cost-cutting drive.

Last Monday, the government spokesman said the accord would be signed between four and six weeks after finalising.

The tentative agreement ends nearly a year of frozen negotiations on defence ties between the United States and Greece.

The previous five-year agreement, covering defence and economic ties between the two countries, expired in December 1988.

Andreas Papandreu's socialist government, which lost power in national elections in June 1989, had conducted 17 rounds of talks with the United States but failed to arrive at an accord.

Wallenberg didn't die in 1947: inquiry

NEW YORK, May 30. (AP): A new inquiry into the fate of Raoul Wallenberg has resulted in a report claiming incontrovertible evidence that he did not die in 1947 as the Soviet Union claims.

Soviet authorities say Wallenberg, a Swedish diplomat who is credited with saving tens of thousands of Hungarian Jews from the Nazis during World War II died in a Soviet prison two years after he was arrested in Budapest on spying charges.

But that claim is widely disputed. Wallenberg's relatives contend he is still alive. If so, he would be 77 years old.

The 1,200-page report was issued yesterday in Ottawa, Canada, shortly before the arrival of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. The report incorporates all available evidence from archives and depositions by "any witness still alive" disputing the Soviet Union's claim, said Irwin Cotler, a law professor at Canada's McGill University who participated in the inquiry.

"I can't claim there's anything new in the report," Cotler said in a telephone interview with the Associated Press.

Gabon Army takes control of Port Gentil after violent riots leave 13 dead

LIBREVILLE, May 30. (Reuters): Gabon said today it had quelled the worst anti-government riots in 30 years which rocked the oil capital Port Gentil, but sporadic gunfire persisted overnight.

The official daily L'Union newspaper said the army was in full control of the city after nearly a week of violent protests which threatened to shut the country's vital oil industry.

Soldiers, using sweeping powers granted under a state of siege, poured onto the streets of Port Gentil yesterday to stamp out the rebellion against the 22-year rule of President Omar Bongo.

A Gabonese soldier was killed and 12 civilians were wounded in the clashes, the worst since the country's independence from France in 1960. L'Union said 52 protesters were arrested.

Reuters photographer Adeline Rommard said bursts of automatic gunfire echoed through the deserted city last night. Light armoured vehicles patrolled the streets.

About 1,000 Africans, most of them from Mali, Cameroon and Burkina Faso, fled the city.

Rommard said residents told of attacks on shops owned by foreigners. Several businesses were set

ablaze by the protesters, who accused the government of involvement in the mysterious death of an opposition politician.

Information Minister Jean-Remy Pindy-Bouyiki told reporters today that minor clashes had taken place overnight between troops and protesters.

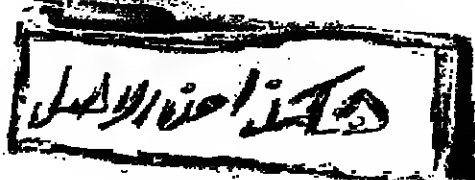
The protesters are demanding the resignation of Bongo, who imposed a state of siege on Monday in the Atlantic province of Ogooue-Maritime, 110 km (80 miles) southwest of Libreville, the capital.

The unrest led foreign oil companies with opera-

tions at Port Gentil, including France's Elf-Aquitaine and the Anglo-Dutch giant Shell, to sharply cut production and pull expatriate staff out of the country.

Elf yesterday reversed its shutdown order saying it was resuming production and would be at 80 per cent capacity today. Bongo had warned Elf to resume normal operations or risk losing exploration rights.

France last week sent crack troops to protect its 20,000 residents in Gabon and help evacuate more than 1,800 Westerners.



MIDEAST

Palestinian attack on Israeli beaches

Four killed 12 captured

NIZZANIM, May 30, (Agencies): Palestinian commandos in six small speedboats launched a two-pronged attack on Israeli beaches crowded for the Jewish holiday of Shavuot today. Israeli soldiers killed four and captured 12. No Israelis were reported killed or injured even though one boat came ashore only a few hundred yards from a crowded Mediterranean beach.



The boat which was used by infiltrators to attack Israeli beaches (Reuters wirephoto)



Freed Reed welcomed home by his family (Reuters wirephoto)

"Abul Al Abbas was responsible," he told a news conference in Tel Aviv. "The PLO is part of the PLO. It is part of the Palestine National Council. It was his decision to kill people in the most populated areas of Israel."

In the Lebanese port of Sidon, a spokesman confirmed the raid has been carried out by the wing of the PLO that supports PLO chairman Yasser Arafat.

It was unclear if the attack had the endorsement of Arafat, who pledged to abandon terrorism as part of the initiative he launched in December 1988 to start a dialogue with the United States and ultimately peace talks with Israel.

The army's intelligence chief, Maj. Gen. Amnon Shahak, said the government of Libyan leader Moammar Khaddafi had helped the commandos prepare for the attack and gave them a place to train.

"The goal was to attack the hotels in the Tel Aviv region to conduct a massacre," he told reporters.

The army said a mothership which sailed from Benghazi, Libya, let loose the smaller craft in the Mediterranean about 120 miles from Israel's coast. It said the commandos were armed with Katyusha rockets, grenades and rifles.

The attempted seaborne attack came on the third day of an Arab summit in Baghdad in which Arab leaders including Arafat issued verbal attacks on Israel.

Army officers said the attack appeared to have required lengthy planning and began well before the summit was called.

But Foreign Minister Moshe Arens linked the attempted act of terrorism with the immigration of Soviet Jews to Israel.

It is not surprising that while the Arab countries declare war on the Jews' right to immigrate to Israel, the PLO try to assassinate Jews on Israeli soil," he said.

Arens said he hoped the incident would convince the US government of the need to abandon its dialogue with the PLO.

Police ordered the evacuation of thousands of Israelis from a 30-mile (50 kilometre) stretch of beaches south of Tel Aviv. Many other Israelis were ordered to stay at home as soldiers and riflemen patrolled the area.

"It sabotaged to a great extent the life of Israel. There were roadblocks, many people didn't understand what was happening," said police commissioner Yaacov Turner.

The attack came on Shavuot, or the festival of weeks, which marks the giving of the Ten Commandments.

Onquid landed about 10:15 am (0715 GMT) on a nearly empty stretch of sand only a few hundred yards from a beach club at Nizzanim, 30 kilometres (18 miles) south of Tel Aviv.

A second squad surrendered after being stopped earlier in an undisclosed location north of Tel Aviv.

Zvi Amitai, 57, a member of the Nizzanim kibbutz communal farm, said he was collecting driftwood when he saw the speedboat slicing through the water followed by an Israeli patrol boat. He said a spotter plane circled overhead and there was gunfire.

He said the commandos landed 20 metres (yards) away on a strip of beach that was empty except for himself and a few fishermen.



Syrian troops patrol a Lebanese boy clad in military fatigues and clutching a plastic automatic machine-gun sits beside Syrian troops as they patrol one of the streets of Muslim West Beirut May 29. (Reuters wirephoto)

Arabs urged to back States

KUWAIT, May 30, (AP): British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd, due to begin a Middle East tour today, says the United States is making a major effort to end the region's conflict and urged Arabs to support the Americans, the Kuwait news agency reported today.

"The United States is now interested in finding a solution and its work in that respect is going to be sustained," he told Arab journalists in London yesterday.

"It's in the interests of the Arab world to encourage the United States to sustain that interest," he said.

Hurd's comments were reported as an Arab summit in Baghdad debated how to take the United States to task for supporting Israel and for what Arabs see as American bias against them.

Hurd said he opposes Jewish settlement in Israeli-occupied Arab territories, including east Jerusalem, the agency reported.

It said that Hurd, who is scheduled to visit Jordan and Saudi Arabia, criticised Israel for refusing to talk to the Palestinians.

"Dialogue has produced results in other parts of the world, and it is unacceptable for Israel to refuse to sit down with the Palestinians," he was quoted as saying.

Soviet Jewish emigrants "have no right to settle in the occupied territories and east Jerusalem," Hurd remarked.

"This view is well known to the Israelis and to the Soviet Jews themselves, because you cannot deal with injustice against a certain group by producing injustice to another."

Efforts by US Secretary of State James Baker to arrange peace talks between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation on the future of the territories occupied in 1967 have stalled because of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's hardline stance.

Responding to a warning by Jordan's King Hussein in Baghdad that the Middle East is sitting "on a powder keg" because of large-scale Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel, Hurd said: "We cannot single-handedly relieve King Hussein's anxieties."

He said that when he is in Amman he will "hear first hand from the Jordanian monarch about his views on the region and the safety of his kingdom."

Hurd condemned the Israeli clampdown on 1.7 million Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza who have been staging an uprising against Israeli occupation for the last 30 months as "unjustifiable and unsustainable."

Growing fundamentalism Prince Hassan warns

AMMAN, May 30, (AP): Crown Prince Hassan today warned that the current deadlock in the Middle East peace process will lead to a growing tide of Islamic fundamentalism.

In a meeting with a 50-person American and Canadian group led by Charles Percy, a former Republican US senator from Illinois, Prince Hassan accused Israel of trying to "Lebanise" the region.

"If no just and comprehensive peace to the Arab-Israeli dispute is reached soon, guaranteeing the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, then extremism and violence will prevail in the region," Hassan said.

He blamed the deadlock on Israel's refusal to negotiate a settlement with Arabs and accused the Jewish state of "continuously attempting to Lebanonise the region and dividing it into weak and buffer states."

Prince Hassan's comments were carried by the official Jordan News Agency, Petra, which said that the prince met the delegation instead of King Hussein who is currently attending an emergency Arab summit in Iraq.

Percy arrived in Jordan on the third leg of a regional tour which has taken him to Egypt and Syria. He was scheduled to start a visit to Israel and the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip on Friday.

The trip was organised by the Washington, D.C.-based Pax-World Foundation in co-ordination with the Cyprus-based Middle East Council of Churches.

In an interview with the Associated Press following the meeting with Prince Hassan, Percy said his visit to the region was part of a "mission for just solution in the Middle East."

He called on Israel to negotiate a peace settlement with the PLO and said the organisation is the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

"Israel has to negotiate a settlement to the Middle East conflict with the Palestine Liberation Organisation...the internationally accepted representative of the Palestinian people," Percy said.

Kabul agrees to changes: Afghan President Najibullah's government yesterday agreed to change the constitution and urged all rebel groups fighting the Moscow-backed regime to negotiate peace.

The Loya Jirga (grand assembly) ended a special two-day session with a call on rebel field commanders and groups based in neighbouring Pakistan and Iran to open talks with the government.

The assembly also agreed constitutional change proposed by Najibullah a month ago which dropped a reference to the leading role of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and clauses imposing state control over domestic and foreign trade.

Old mine explodes in Amman: A mine dating back to 1970, when the army drove PLO fighters out of Jordan, exploded in Amman today but no one was injured.

Police said it was detonated by a bulldozer digging foundations for a new house near the University of Jordan. A search was going on for any more mines.

Syrians disarm Shiite rivals

BEIRUT, May 30, (AP): Syrian troops seized arms from rival Shiite Muslim groups today in raids aimed at heading off new clashes between the factions in west Beirut, police reported.

The Syrians also closed militia offices and banned the gunmen from wearing military fatigues, police said.

Large quantities of weapons were seized in buildings and apartments used by the pro-Iranian Hezbollah, and the Syrian-backed Amal militia in the day-long raids across Beirut's Muslim sector, police reported.

Syrian troops, armed with automatic rifles and rocket-propelled grenade launchers, arrested a number of gunmen who were on the streets with pistols, police said.

Syrian patrols moved around all across the city's Muslim sector.

The soldiers also set up checkpoints in the Wadi Abu Jamil, Bourj Abu-Haidar, Jnah, Bir Hassan and Ouzai districts.

The two factions fought street battles last week in which five people were killed and 42 wounded.

Amal and Hezbollah have been fighting intermittently since May 1987 for dominance of Lebanon's 1.2 million Shiites, the country's largest sect.

At least 1,049 people have been killed and 3,136 wounded in the power struggle.

Beirut's prestigious An-Nahar daily said today the "tough measures, designed to head off the recurrence of street gunbattles between Amal and Hezbollah in west Beirut, will continue."

The Syrian crackdown was launched after Syrian Vice-President Abdul-Halim Khaddam held separate talks with Sheikh Mohammed Rashid Kabbani, the senior Sunni Muslim cleric in Lebanon, and Sheikh Mohammed Mehdi Shamseddine, the Shiite spiritual leader.

Sources close to Kabbai quoted Khaddam as saying that the lawlessness in Beirut caused by the repeated clashes between Amal and Hezbollah had to be halted.

At least six people were killed and 45 wounded last week during Amal-Hezbollah fighting.

Mortar and machine-gun fire damaged the Iranian embassy and cultural centre in Beirut, forcing Iranian diplomats to ask for protection from the 40,000 Syrian troops deployed in Lebanon.

"The rival factions are not allowed to fight in areas under our control. We have confiscated machine-guns and rockets and we will arrest any armed elements," a Syrian military source told Reuters today.

The Lebanese community in Australia had donated six ambulance vehicles to the civil defence in Lebanon within the framework of donations that cover development, education, and medical fields.

Iran trying to rebuild West ties

NICOSIA, May 30, (Reuters): Iran's pragmatic leaders, paying lip service to the radical legacy of Ayatollah Khomeini, have painstakingly tried to rebuild links with the outside world in the year since his death.

"Things are slowly moving for the better," a Tehran-based Western diplomat said.

"Most officials we meet are optimistically talking about Iran opening up...it's more like Iran is taking three steps forward and two back."

President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani has led the move away from the militant isolationist stance which made Iran an outcast of Islamic zealotry in the eyes of much of the West since its 1979 revolution.

It's bad news for hostages

Hezbollah men dead

BEIRUT, May 30, (Reuters): A senior pro-Iranian leader said today the US report that three Iranians who disappeared in Lebanon were dead was bad news for the American hostages.

Washington said yesterday it had officially informed Tehran that from evidence it had gleaned it had concluded that three Iranians and their Lebanese driver kidnapped by Christian militiamen in 1982 were dead.

"This is a badwill gesture...if the four were killed then the Americans bear the responsibility because they back the Christian militia which kidnapped them...this will not reflect well on the US hostages at all," Hussein Musawi told Reuters.

Musawi is a leader of Hezbollah which is believed by the West to be an umbrella for groups holding 15 Westerners, including six Americans, in Lebanon.

Musawi said that any fresh hostage releases would be delayed because of the American statement.

"If nothing worse happens, the least thing expected is that if things were going in a positive path regarding the hostage problem, then any solution is going to be delayed," Musawi said.

Washington said yesterday President George Bush had ordered a new investigation about the fate of the missing Iranians because of Tehran's concern.

"We have made a major effort at collecting information from other countries, from international organisations and from private sources that have developed in the region over the years," White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said.

"We have passed this information along to the government of Iran," through Swiss authorities, Fitzwater said. "Essentially our conclusions are the same, that the four individuals they were concerned about were dead."

Musawi said "if this is proved, then the reaction will not be good...the hostage problem is heading towards further complications but nobody can tell how, where and what yet. Sure, things are not to the benefit of the hostages."

Tunisian govt plans to triple tourism; revenue threatens Djerba island way of life

DJERBA, Tunisia, May 30, (Reuters): Bulldozers are hard at work on the island of Djerba as the Tunisian government tries to boost tourism revenue from what glossy brochures describe as the legendary land of the lotus eaters.

But Djerban families say investors from abroad and from the Tunisian mainland are destroying their way of life, ploughing up their ancestral palm groves and damaging the island's fragile environment.

The government plans to build as many hotel beds on the 600 square km (230 square miles) island, in the far southeast of Tunisia, in the next six years as have been built since tourism began here in the 1950s.

By the turn of the century, Djerba will have 32,000 beds, about one for every four inhabitants, compared with the current 12,000, tourism officials said.

Djerbans, who retain a firm local identity and stronger links with other far-flung Djerban communities than they do with Tunis, fear an influx of mainland labour to service hundreds of thousands of Europeans drawn to Djerba's beaches.

Djerbans have traditionally been traders in exile who come home to retire, herd sheep and bring up their grandchildren in the pious traditions of their ancestors.

"Now they are going to turn it into another Majorca, just because there's a clique of a dozen or so influential businessmen who stand to profit," said a housewife who lost her house last year when the government expropriated 2,500 hectares (6,000 acres) of prime building land.

The owners have been offered up to one dinar (\$1.1) a square metre (1.1 square yards). They say it is worth between 10 and 50 times as much.

"The island of Djerba has purely and simply been abandoned to the appetites of fly-by-night constructors."

The government argues that development of tourism, which already earns Tunisia about \$1 billion a year in foreign exchange, is a national priority.

Fatouwi Al Basly, the tourism commissioner on the island, said the Agence Fonciere Touristique, the government agency which acquires land for hotels, resorted to expropriation only as a last resort because it could not buy the land.

Brig Kassiano, the political supervisor of the Equatoria region, said the earthquake has pushed "villagers around Juba to flock to the town in search of shelter and food". (Kuna)

KUWAIT ... GULF

Fast food dangerous in the long run: official

Call to abide by nutritional specifications

KUWAIT National Committee for World Food Day which is affiliated to the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources has called on restaurants, cafeterias and snack bars serving fast food to abide by the relevant hygienic and nutritional specifications.

In a seminar organised by the committee, the director of nutrition department at

Kuwait's Ministry of Public Health Dr Fawziya Al Awadi, said that some fast food in the local market constituted negative effects on the human beings health.

She clarified that some distributors of such meals increased the percentage of salt, grease and spices in order to create a specific flavour aiming at the promotion of

such meals which in the long-term may cause side effects.

Meanwhile, the official has called for enlightening consumers about the sound rules of nutrition in order to let them realise the volume of their food needs.

She suggested that each restaurant should set menus which clearly state the nutritional content of each meal including

salt, protein, etc. She added that this type of menu will help consumers select the appropriate meals.

To avoid the negatives of some food distributors, the official has called for imposition of strict control on the preparation process of fast-food in addition to the spread of health awareness among the public.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Premier receives

KUWAIT, May 30 (Kuna): HH the Deputy Amir, Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah received at his diwan in Bayan Palace yesterday, Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Saud Mohammed Al Ossaimi.

HH also received the governor of Ahmadi Sheikh Ali Sabah Al Salem and Kuwait's permanent representative to the United Nations in Geneva, Ambassador, Dr Salem Jaber Al Ahmed.

Sheikh Saad also received a number of citizens at the public diwan.

Sane leaves

KUWAIT, May 30, (Kuna): Civil Service Commission's Assistant Undersecretary for Administrative Development Dr Nasser Al Sane left today for Canada and the United States.

Sane told Kuna he would take part in an international conference on administrative sciences in Canada. He said he would present a research to the conference on the Gulf States' policies in qualifying top management executives.

In Washington, Sane said, he would approach a number of American civil service institutions and the US federal government's bodies to discuss all aspects of bilateral co-operation.

Kuwaiti aid

BEIRUT, May 30, (Kuna): More than half a million Lebanese families will benefit from the Kuwaiti assistance, it was announced here yesterday.

According to sources, a programme to distribute the Kuwaiti assistance was agreed upon during a meeting chaired by Lebanese Health Minister Dr Abdullah A. Rasi.

The same sources said that the distribution operations will start immediately after the arrival of all consignments of Kuwaiti assistance and that it will be distributed to 604,536 Lebanese families.

The third batch of the Kuwaiti assistance, which included 58 truck-loads, of foodstuff products, medicines and houseware, arrived in Lebanon on May 23. However, the fourth and last batch of the Kuwaiti assistance is due to arrive here within the coming few days.

Trade invitation

KUWAIT, May 30, (Kuna): Minister of Trade and Industry Faisal Abdul Razak Al Khalid yesterday received an invitation from the UAE Economic and Trade Minister Saif Al Jarwan to attend the Abu Dhabi First International Fair, scheduled for January 1992.

The invitation was conveyed by the UAE Charge d'Affaires to Kuwait Ismail Obeid during a meeting with Al Khalid here today.

Later, Khalid received Deputy Director of Fairs Department at the UAE Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Ali Al Niyawi, who delivered a similar invitation from the first deputy board chairman of the department, Abdullah Al Mubaihi.

Commercial ads

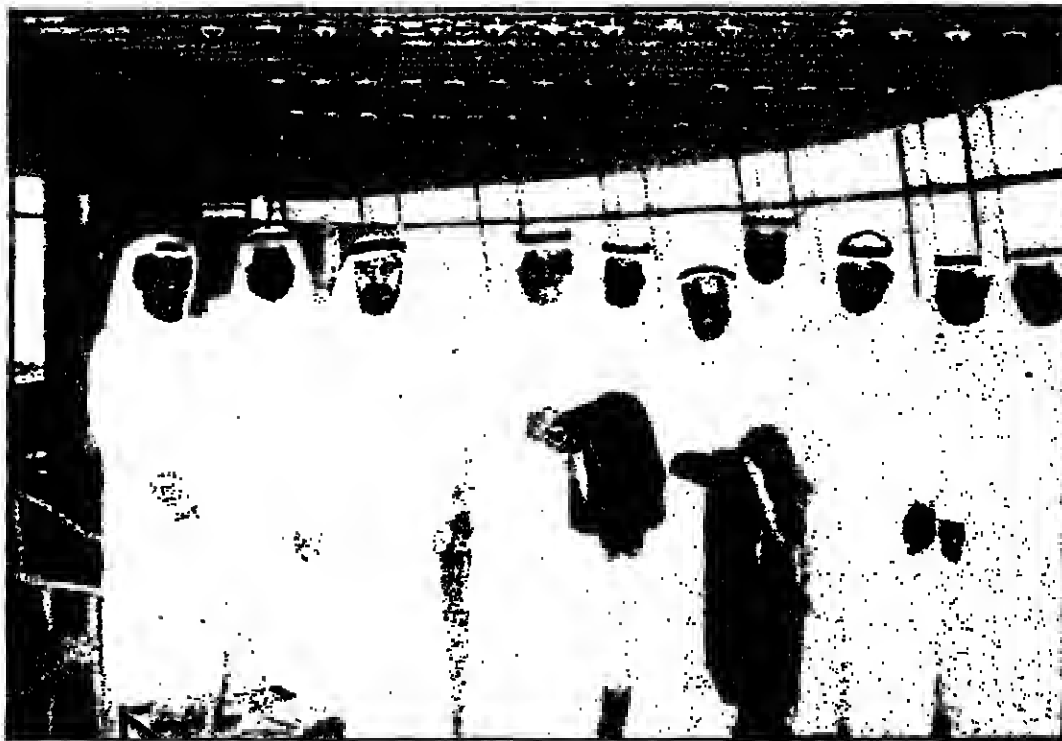
THE committee empowered to set up the necessary specifications for telephone directories at the Ministry of Communications is currently studying the possibility of inserting commercial advertisements into the new edition of the directory, an official source at Kuwait's Ministry of Communications was quoted as saying.

In an interview with Kuwait News Agency (Kuna), the official said that the committee which was chaired by the assistant undersecretary for subscribers services affairs at the ministry, Khalid Al Houti had decided that publishing of commercial advertisements will contribute in minimising the cost of such a directory and will induce subscribers to purchase it.

Omani message

BAGHDAD, May 30 (Kuna): Iraqi President Saddam Hussein yesterday received a message from Oman's Sultan Qaboos Bin Saeed concerning issues relating to the ongoing emergency Arab summit as well as bilateral relations.

The message was conveyed by personal representative of the Oman's Sultan Thwaini Bin Shihab during a meeting with President Saddam.



Rqobah holds banquet

Minister of Electricity and Water Dr Homoud Al Rqobah held a lunch banquet (above) in honour of the director-general of the Qatari Petroleum Corporation at the Kuwait Towers and attended by the ministry undersecretary and assistant undersecretaries. Dr Rqobah also received (below) the Italian Ambassador to Kuwait, Marco Colombo. Cordial talks on bilateral relations were exchanged.



Transportation

GCC to co-ordinate joint airline links

MINISTER of State for Services Affairs Issa Al Mazzei has been quoted as saying that joint air transport means are likely to be developed to interlink the GCC members before the turn of the current century.

A local daily said that Mazzei said on the occasion of the 10th GCC anniversary that the goals so far achieved over the last ten years since the birth of the GCC continue to consolidate the march of co-operation and unity among the members.

He said that the GCC is now more able to overcome difficulties, better co-ordinate efforts and bring to fruition all projects that further promote the march of co-operation, in line with planned schedules.

He said that the GCC members who look out on the Gulf waters are expected to play a greater role in activating commercial transport by sea, now that the war has subsided, adding that the Gulf waters are now secure for all ships.

He said that the GCC imports by sea have so far cost hundreds of billions of dollars, and that this important waterway will be included in the development projects implemented in the region, due to the large number of beneficiaries.

Meanwhile, the board chairman and managing director of the Kuwait Public Transport Company Abdul Wahab Rashed Al Haroun has said that the experimental operation of the central bus terminal in the country is scheduled to begin on Friday.

He told a local daily that the official inauguration of the central KPTC bus terminal, which occupies a site area of 5,000 square metres, will take place in October, adding that the completion of the main bus terminal currently under construction in Sharq area will be the start of building three main bus terminals in Sharq, Qibla and Mirqab.

He pointed out that the new Sharq terminal, which comprises 22 lanes, will serve 150 to 200 buses and as such has larger operational capacity than the existing Mirqab terminal.

He said that the central bus terminal in Sharq is designed to cater to the basic requirements and in line with international specifications, adding that the total number of buses to be used for public transport is 700, and the number of buses in actual operation will exceed 500, the rest will be placed in stand-by position in anticipation of daily operation and maintenance requirements.

Nation wants peace

Yemen halts arms purchases

BAGHDAD, May 30, (Reuters): Yemen has stopped buying arms because unity between the North and South of the country means they are no longer needed, the president of the week-old republic said yesterday.

"We have decided to freeze arms contracts because we are a nation that wants peace and stability," Ali Abdullah Saleh told a news conference in Baghdad.

"We have no intention of becoming an arsenal. Both Yemens were spending millions of dollars to arm themselves against each other," he said.

Officials statistics show North Yemen spent \$471 million on defence and security in 1988 — around 27 per cent of total expenditure. Recent figures for the south are not available.

The pro-Western North and Marxist South proclaimed a united republic on May 22, six days ahead of the Arab League summit in the Iraqi capital.

Ali Salem Al Beidh, former secretary-general of the ruling Socialist Party in Aden and now Yemeni vice-president, said economic development would be the priority for the new republic.

He said it had passed legislation giving guarantees to Arab and foreign investors, but would also seek to develop its own resources.

Yemen, whose population of about 12 million is the biggest in the Arabian peninsula, produces around 200,000 barrels of oil per day.

Beidh said Soviet military and other advisors in the South would stay. "The united country is responsible for all agreements and commitments entered into by the previous regime," he said.

Yemen controls much of the eastern Red Sea coast, including the strategic Bab Al-Mandeb Strait in the south.

"We ask all countries bordering the Red Sea to share with us responsibility for maintaining peace there," Beidh said.

Saleh, congratulated by a West German reporter on Yemeni unity, said: "We have lots of expenditure in unity now and if the need arises we are ready to send you our experts."

Saleh acknowledged that Yemeni unity was not universally welcomed either at home or abroad. "There is a price to pay. We have paid it and will continue to pay it," he said without elaborating.

He said he knew of no Arab country which opposed the unification. "But we do not know what happens in corridors because we deal with what we see," he added.

Arabs to upgrade airport security

CAIRO, May 30, (Kuna): Heads of the ports, airports and border security in the Arab world opened a three-day conference here yesterday to discuss ways to improve security at the airports and upgrade the performance of the airports employees.

Egypt's Interior Minister Mohammad Abdul Halim Mussa, who inaugurated the conference, underlined the importance of continuing the social and cultural contacts among the Arab countries to exchange information and co-ordinate their stances.

Citing the security problems and the surge of organised crime, he said the Arab security systems should unite to confront this problem.

Meanwhile, Secretary-General of the Arab Interior Ministers Council Dr Nashat urged the Arab leaders, currently meeting in Baghdad, to reach effective resolutions to protect the Arab national security.

He also urged the Arab countries to give special attention to developing and upgrading the airports security systems and to use the technological advancement in their work.

Director of Kuwait airport security Col Hnoud Al Dosari said that he will inform the conference of Kuwait's experience and the up-to-date technological equipment it is using in the field of airport security.

He added that he will also benefit from the experience of the Arab countries in this field in order to reach the best method to protect Arab security.

Filipino independence celebrations

THE Philippine Independence Day celebration to be held on June 8, at Messilah Beach Resort from 7.00 am to 11.00 pm is organised not only by Kapilku but by the Filipino associations in Kuwait, namely, FIASIK, PBAK, Spok, FCC, Kamay, KPBL, Fil-check and members of the Filipino community in Kuwait, under the auspices of the Philippine Embassy. All Filipinos are invited to come.

Call to modernise Arab forces

KUWAIT, May 30, (Kuna): A Palestinian official has said that the joint Arab Defence Council is called upon to modernise Arab forces and confront dangers of Jewish influx into the occupied Arab lands.

PLO chief diplomat Ferouk Kaddoumi told a local Kuwaiti daily that the council should discuss means of bolstering pan-Arab security and defences.

Kaddoumi, attending in the Iraqi capital the extraordinary Arab summit called for by his organisation to face threats against Arab national security, said that it was up to the council members to discuss details of those issues.

Aluminium best non-oil industry in GCC states

10pc of world supply by 2000

DIRECTOR-GENERAL of the Gulf Organisation for Industrial Consultancy (GOIC), Dr Abdul Rahman Al Jaafari has said that his organisation has estimated that the Gulf states will contribute 10 per cent of the world market needs of aluminium by the year 2000.

He said that the aluminium industry has proved the most successful non-oil industry in the Gulf. He added that the GOIC has estimated that by the year 2000, the Gulf region will become a world centre for this industry and will supply 10 per cent of the world requirements of aluminium.

In his editorial in the Industrial Co-operation magazine of the Arab Gulf states, Dr Jaafari stressed that the region heavily depends upon oil as the main resource adding that oil is after all a vanishing natural

resource. For this it becomes necessary to erect alternative resources to preserve the economic and social progress achieved by the hydrocarbon.

Levi Jaafari said that the Gulf region is facing a problem of industrial societies which have the power to move and manoeuvre to achieve their goals. The Gulf region stands at some level with these countries in some fields like the industries of petrochemicals, oil and aluminium.

He said that the success of aluminium industry in the region is attributed mainly to its extensive dependence on energy resources abundantly available in the region. He said that in order to ensure the continuity of the success of the aluminium industry in the Gulf region, a number of measures must be

taken. Energy must be supplied to the industry at very competitive prices, which is the real advantage of this industry in the Gulf region.

Financing of these industrial projects must be done through offering shares to the public in the Gulf to benefit from the liquidity in the Gulf. He called for the participation of governments in the financing. Dr Jaafari also called for the use of the latest technology in the aluminium industry, particularly those requiring less manpower and consuming less electric power.

He added that joint ventures could be the best form of aluminium industries companies and that joint agreements should be made for marketing aluminium products.

Rehab course

Bid to optimise process of administration

THE assistant undersecretary for administrative development affairs Dr Nasser Al Sane has said that the idea behind administrative development is to optimise the performance of the administrative staff in the government sector in a bid to ensure more effective participation in the national development process.

He said in a speech delivered during the opening session of a rehabilitation course for staff operating within the field of administrative development that the government has long been tending to set up different committees for the purpose of administrative development.

The development plan is receiving ample support from the government, in preparation for the great leap in kind urged for by HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister. Additionally, the officials said that the Higher Committee for Development has stressed the need for starting development from the top down to the bottom, and that in this respect a good number of senior government employees have been replaced in line with a new rule to renew government officials every four years to ensure ample change of all qualified Kuwaitis to take turns in bearing the responsibilities in leading government positions.

Achievements so far under development has been the disentanglement of 80 government agencies sharing similar functions, including a number of policies being followed by government agencies aimed at promoting the Kuwaitisation process based on sound planning, Sane said.

28 months for stealing

THE Criminal Court sentenced a man to 28 months imprisonment to be followed by deportation for breaking into a car and stealing the mobile telephone device.

Police officers arrested the convict while he was in the act of using the phone at a main street.

The owner of the vehicle had complained to the police that on the morning of the incident, he was surprised to find that both the left and right windows of his car were broken and was unable to realise that his mobile telephone had been stolen.

In court, the convict told the public prosecutor that he was not permitted to use the telephone in his home by his parents and needed desperately to call his girlfriend. He said that the owner had forgiven him and asked for leniency.

However, the court in its deliberations considered the act as robbery and also determined that there were no mitigating circumstances to grant leniency in judgement.



Rawda voters seated in rows at Jasser Al Jasser's diwaniya.

Jasser stands by constitution

By Lima Al Khalefawi and Diana Abou Haidar Arab Times staff

"I DON'T expect the term of the Interim National Council to be more than one or two years. I promise to discuss shortening the four-year period," said Jasser Al Jasser at an opening discussion at his diwaniya Monday.

Speaking to more than 250 voters, the Rawda candidate said he would resign his post in the upcoming council if the constitution was changed. "I believe that tampering with the constitution is equal to tampering with one's honour. But we have a solemn promise from HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince that it won't be changed."



Jasser A. Jasser

Replying to a question from the audience about his withdrawal from the group of 32, Jasser

said that he believed their decision not to participate in the council is "evading their responsibility." "We (the group of 32) had decided to contest the elections but they changed their minds at the last minute."

He added that snubbing the elections by some citizens is an "unhealthy phenomenon" that will give a chance to incompetent candidates to fill these positions.

In an answer to queries about his campaign issues, Jasser told his guests that priority will be given to increasing housing loans to KD 75,000 and renovation loans to KD 40,000 in addition to developing the social security system.

The 20-minute discussion recorded by Kuwait Television was followed by a dinner.

Infiltrators arrested

KUWAIT, May 30, (UPI): Security forces arrested 18 Iranians who tried to infiltrate into Kuwait illegally from the sea, an interior ministry statement said yesterday.

The Iranians were arrested at Failaka Island, about 10 miles (16 km) east of Kuwait City. An official statement said the Iranians landed on Kuwait's shore in a boat.

Kuwaiti authorities frequently arrest Iranian infiltrators, seeking illegal entry into Kuwait for work, where opportunities are better than in Iran.

Fahd's letter to Hirawi

BEIRUT, May 31, (Reuters): A Saudi Arabian envoy arrived in Beirut yesterday and handed President Elias Hirawi a letter and a detailed report on efforts by an Arab League committee to end Lebanon's 13-year-old civil war, Lebanese officials said.

They did not name the envoy but said he told Hirawi that King Fahd had proposed steps to restore Lebanon's sovereignty during a closed session of the Arab summit which opened in Baghdad Monday.

Hirawi, like his ally Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, is boycotting the summit in the Iraqi capital.

Iraq has not yet recognised Hirawi, who was elected last year with Syrian backing. Baghdad supports Christian General Michel Aoun, who has defied Hirawi and controls parts of Lebanon's Christian enclave.

Saudi Arabia, Algeria and Morocco were charged by an Arab summit a year ago to try to settle Lebanon's civil war and Hirawi was elected in November under a peace pact negotiated at the Saudi Algerian President Chadli Benjedid and Morocco's King Hassan have also stayed away from the summit but they sent representatives.

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Private Arab schools begin GSCE exams

Smooth flow ensured

ASSISTANT Undersecretary for Private Education at the Ministry of Education, Dr. Yaqoub Al Sharah has stated that the department has completed preparations to hold general secondary certificate examinations of private Arab schools for the current academic year. He added that such preparations were carried out with the co-operation of specialised authorities at the

Ministry of Education.

In an interview with a local daily, he explained that a total of 1593 students at private Arab schools will appear for the secondary certificate examinations this year.

He pointed out that some of the private Arab schools have been selected as

examination centres for students. For this purpose four schools have been selected of which three schools are for girls and one school for boys. The private education department has prepared itself to provide all examinations committees with their requirements in order to ensure smooth work flow.

He stated that examinations for the

intermediate stage started last Monday and for the secondary stage started last Sunday.

Sharah stated that general examinations at foreign schools began during the middle of May according to the educational system followed by these schools.

Kuwait re-export trade slackens

KUWAIT has for long been an important commercial centre in the Gulf particularly for re-export activities, before Dubai managed to loom up as a powerful rival.

The outset of the eighties witnessed high-level commercial activities in Kuwait when exports and re-export operations were at their peak. However, the situation started to take a course in the opposite direction as the Iraq-Iran war waged.

A local daily carried out a series of interviews with local Kuwaiti merchants who gave their individual accounts of the heyday of trade in the area, which lost zest in the past few years.

Youssef Salmeen said that the Seif Market used to be a great centre for re-exporting activities as all goods came from Iran and barter operations took place in return for local products.

He said that at the time, shops in the market used to receive KD200,000 and workers used to make as much as KD400 each. He added that Iranian goods used to "anchor" close to the market and do their shopping with the least bargaining due to high market and quality reliability.

All Akbar said that Iranian commercial cruises used to come in tens during the heyday of the market, when work was at its best with the Iranian re-exporting activities, before Dubai emerged as a powerful rival.

He said that now the Iranian trade vessels are not coming down to the local market and do their business or carry out trading activities, but are not only few in number and seldom do any trade in the area following the unloading of their cargoes.

Another merchant appealed to the customs authorities to relax the strict constraints imposed on the marine trade activities, in a bid to revive the old trading boom in the area. He pointed out that the Iranian vessels used to pick up most of their purchases from the local market and this kept the re-exports trade at its best.

Ghulam Khariyat said that with the decrease of the Iranian trade vessels in the wake of the Gulf war, trading activities were reduced to individual businesses on a very limited scale, while the majority of vessels took Dubai as its best station under the prevalent situation in the region, while very few, if any, managed to get as far as the Doha port where they dumped their cargo and hardly did any business there.

He said that despite the presence of some supply centres in Doha, these businesses are much too small to cater to potential bulky orders to the Iranian merchants, and therefore if the authorities could only relax the enforced constraints on the marine trade, things will look up and the market situation will definitely improve.

Forgery case

THE Criminal Court has refrained from ruling against a man and ordered him to submit a written statement pledging good conduct for one year.

The court heard that the man had encountered some difficulty in trying to get his newborn daughter added to the passport of his wife for failure to satisfy enforced regulations.

However, he was approached by an acquaintance of his working at the Immigration and Passports Department who offered to get the job done for him in return for KD 70.

The man agreed and handed over the passport of his wife to the do-gooder who returned with the passport the next day and claimed the fee, after getting the baby added to the passport. A year passed from the incident and when the defendant tried to arrange for the renewal of his residence permit the department officials told him that only two of his kids were registered in their files.

He was referred to court on grounds of forgery of official documents with the help of an unknown person.



Palestinian hunger strike

A number of Palestinians currently on a hunger strike at the Embassy of the State of Palestine in Kuwait in solidarity with the steadfastness of Palestinians inside the occupied lands will wind up their strike after four days.

The gesture has come in response to a request by the Intifada united national command in the wake of the second week running of the strike by leading Palestinian figures in occupied Palestine.

The hunger strikers have dispatched an urgent call to the extraordinary Arab summit currently in session in the Iraqi capital requesting support for the Palestinians under the yoke of Israeli occupation authorities and asking for firm measures to put an end to Israeli arrogance and oppressive massacres practised against the Palestinian people.

Government shares

Committee to implement share selling programme

A COMMITTEE will reportedly be set up comprising representatives from the Public Investment Authority, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, and the administration of the Kuwait Stock Market which will be entrusted with the task of implementing the government programme of selling government shares in closed companies, already announced by the Minister of Finance Jassem Mohammad Al Khorafi.

A local daily has collected views on this programme from relevant figures who have described the government programme to turn its shares in 13 different closed companies into the private sector as good and positive.

Some financial figures said that this move is positive in principle but the type of companies offered in sale may not be highly tempting or constituting any economic temptation, and therefore selling them will practically mean nothing to the private sector and form no incentive.

However, the true temptation lies in the selling of giant companies with great productivity, such as the national industries, mobile communication systems and refrigeration.

Some said that the intention by the government to sell these companies may be a good move to dispose of badly performing and low productivity companies which could flourish under the care of the private sector.

Some called for public review of three years of budgetary figures of the companies offered for sale, whereby potential buyers could verify the facts for themselves before attempting to buy these shares and that the sales be arranged in the form of public auctions, not through sealed-envelope biddings.

Meanwhile, another daily reported that the Public Investment Authority will, over the next few days, announce the opening of special financial centres for the 13 companies offered for sale to the private sector and the related selling terms.

The daily said that local investment companies will undertake the selling procedure on behalf of the authority against agreed commissions and the final touches are currently being laid down to agree on the optimum method of sale based on the scale of priorities, as to whether the existing shareholders have the priority of purchase or others.

Razi hospital

3 spinal surgeries performed

KUWAIT, May 30, (Kuna): Doctors at a chiropractic hospital in Kuwait successfully performed three complicated surgeries yesterday on spinal cords of patients.

According to Doctor Taysir Sahri, a chiropractic surgeon at Al Razi Chiropractic Hospital, yesterday's surgeries sought to repair damages to the spinal cords by removing a tumour, in one case, and a pressure, in another case.

He added in published statement that one of the patients was partially paralysed but should hopefully be able to move his paralysed limbs after removing a tumour from his spinal cord.

The third case, he noted, sought to repair a curved spinal cord, a surgery which has been performed for nearly one hundred patients in Kuwait.

In the past, the patient has to have a back exterior supporter for about nine months after the surgery but due to new medical techniques the patient now can leave the hospital after his spinal cord is repaired in one week and without a back supporter.

Asked about the curved spinal cords, Dr Sahri said that the phenomena is spread among women in Kuwait as studies have shown that one per cent of male students were affected with the problem while about 80 per cent of female students had the problem.

Taste of after life

THREE people lay-down in freshly dug graves for a period of three hours in Kuwait's cemetery.

According to the guard, he said that he had observed the trio enter the cemetery around 4.30 pm last Monday. However, when they did not appear after the Maghreb prayers he went looking for them.

Failing to locate them, he reported the incident to the police. Police who arrived on the scene and conducted the search were surprised to find the three reported missing persons well and alive — but lying in a supine position in open graves.

When queried as to what they were doing, all three said that they were trying to experience a taste of the afterlife.

Plan to establish handicraft society

Regulations being formulated

THE Sadu House in Kuwait, is reminiscent of Kuwait's glorious past and is a link to beduin traditions and heritage. At the same time, it is in keeping with "twentieth-century art".

The first Sadu House was founded by a group of interested individuals in 1979. Sheikhha Alfat Salem Al Ali was one of the founder members who believes that to prove their loyalty to the land, citizens must preserve its heritage in the face of rapid modernisation.

With this objective, Sheikhha Alfat is endeavouring to establish a handicrafts society for females and Sadu workers in the rest of the Gulf and Arab states and has conducted in-depth research in co-operation with several experts. The study confirms that there are a large number of female textile weavers who are interested in developing these traditions.

The official said that the Kuwait Sadu idea has been praised by the Gulf states and has led to several activities. She

added that handicraft market will be held regularly at these states, the first of which will be held before the end of this year.

Skills Giving a background, she said that strong co-operation in the Sadu field was established with the Ministry of Education five years ago. Initially importance was accorded to training teachers in the fine art of Sadu making skills. The Sadu House also provided training programmes for students at summer clubs.

She said that the first symposium on preserving handicrafts was held in Doha in 1989. The symposium called on the GCC states to formulate regulations to protect producers and workers of various handicrafts. It stressed on co-operation among GCC member states in the field by laying more emphasis on field studies in looking after handicrafts and popular industries in all states.

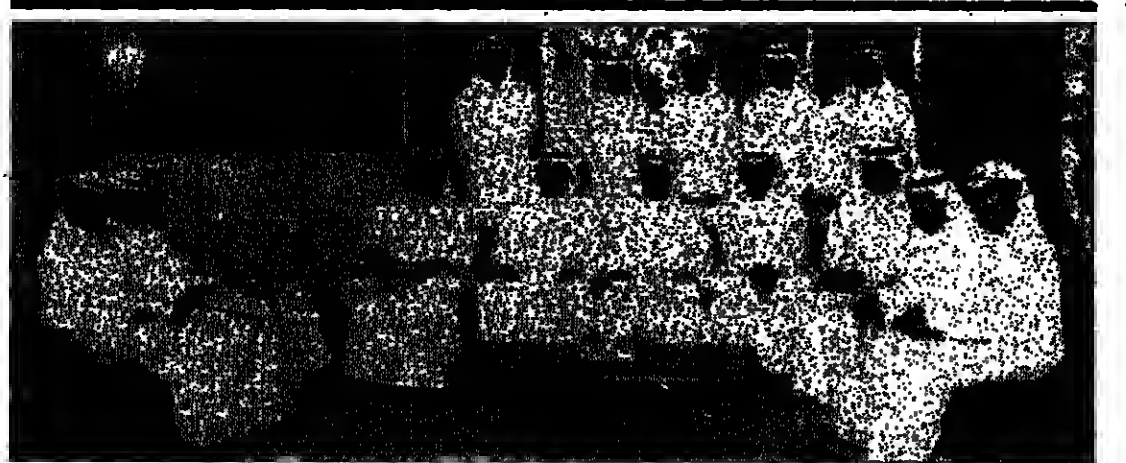
Sheikhha Alfat said that one of the first results of the symposium was to hold regular handicraft

markets at Gulf states. The market will represent an opportunity to display works and to resolve any problem which may occur among workers and concerned authorities. She added that the market will also give a chance for competition among professional handicraft workers towards the quality of these works.

Sheikhha Alfat pointed out that the Sadu House has a total of 350 female workers who have shown great interest towards establishing a strongly based structure for a wider Sadu society.

The idea here is that the society will have productive centres at all governorates particularly those with high population density.

Sheikhha Alfat, the director of the Sadu House stated that one of her hopes was to establish a museum for desert heritage which she considers a necessity for future generations. She added that plans are also underway to establish handicrafts co-operative society aimed at developing national industry.



Training courses

In the frame work of co-operation between Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (Paaet) and the state's ministries two training courses were concluded recently. The two courses were organised by Paaet in favour of the ministries of social affairs and labour and communication.

One of these training courses was held on the theme of "Security and Safety at Youth Centres" which was opened on May 23rd and lasted up to May 28, 1990 and was attended by a number of employees from the Ministry of Social and Labour. The second was held on the theme "Executive Secretaries" during the period from May 5 to May 28, 1990 and was attended by a number of Ministry of Communication employees.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Saad receives

KUWAIT, May 30, (Kuna): High Highness the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah today received at his diwan Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed Al Jaber, Minister of Information Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad, Minister of Education Anwar Abdullah Al Nouri, Finance Minister Jassem Mohammed Al Khorafi, Director of the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources Sheikh Ibrahim Al Duaij and the Secretary-General of the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters Dr Farouk Al Omar.

His Highness later received board chairman of Kuwait Finance House Ahmed Beza Al Yassin who was accompanied by the speaker of the Palestine National Council Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Sayeh, the mufti of Tunisia Sheikh Mohammed Mukhtar Al Salami and the secretary of the Jeddah-based Islamic Fiqh Forum Sheikh Habib Belkhouja.

His Highness also received a number of citizens at the public diwan.

GCC meeting

MUSCAT, May 30, (Kuna): GCC Ministers of Information are due to hold their fifth session June 6th in the GCC general secretariat in Riyadh, it was announced here today.

Omani News Agency (ONA) said it was reported recently that the meeting would be held on June 5.

Syrian envoy

KUWAIT, May 30, (Kuna): Minister of Amiri Diwan Affairs Sheikh Khalid Al Ahmad Al Sabah today received at his office at Bayan Palace the Syrian ambassador to Kuwait.

Queen Noor

KUWAIT, May 30, (Kuna): Wife of HH the Deputy Amir, Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikhha Laifia yesterday held a lunch banquet at the Shaab Palace in honour of Queen Noor wife of Jordanian King Hussein.

Queen Noor arrived here for a one day private visit to the country.

Diouf leaves

MUSCAT, May 30, (Kuna): President of Senegal Abdou Diouf and the accompanying delegation today left here after a two-day private visit to Oman during which he met with Sultan Qaboos Bin Saeed.

Radin Muscat said that Diouf was seen off by Deputy Premier for Financial Affairs Qeis Bin Abdul Monem Al Zawawi, Foreign Undersecretary for Political Affairs Meigham Bin Jarib, and Senegal's ambassador to Oman.

Detectives honoured

A NUMBER of detectives at Jahra Governorate were honoured by the Governor of Jahra Sheikh Ali Abdullah Al Salem Al Sane in appreciation of their efforts for recently apprehending about 12 kilograms of hashish.

The ceremony was attended by the Director of Security at Jahra Governorate Colonel Ahmed Ismael, the Director of Jahra Intelligence Department Colonel Mosa Zowaied, and his assistant captain Ali Al Sabah and the Public Relations Officer Captain Majed Al Einazi.

Illegal aliens

DETECTIVES of Jahra Governorate recently apprehended ten men when attempted to enter the country through the Abdali area.

The infiltrators tried to evade arrest which resulted in a dramatic chase by security officials lasting for about five hours. The infiltrators were pursued at 2:00 am and were apprehended at 7:00 am.



Kuwait's test-tube babies

Amongst the numerous breakthroughs in the field of medical science none has been heralded as enthusiastically as the "ere of the test tube baby".

In this respect, Kuwait in its pioneering spirit of upholding the family spirit and its commitment to imparting optimum medical assistance to its population, has been in the forefront in applying the test-tube experiment in the region.

A local daily interviewed a couple of families of the early test-tube babies to be born in Kuwait.

The first, (above left) a girl was born in Kuwait on September 26, 1988 and named Dalal. Her mother said that the baby is very sociable, demonstrates a high-level of intelligence and is very attached to her father.



Dalal's father said that the required analysis and check-ups preceding the operation, revealed a potentially high percentage of success. Progress was smooth, he added, due to the co-operation of the clinic staff and their attention to details. He confided that his wife and he have decided to use the same technique once more and his wife has begun taking necessary medication and is undergoing periodic check-ups.

Another test-tube baby is Bashar, (right) who was born December last year. The father said that some people have total misconceptions of a test-tube baby and called on authorities to undertake an educative campaign to explain the basic facts of this issue.

Bashar's mother said that it took her a number of interviews with clinic doctors before she was able to learn that it was possible in her case to conceive through the test-tube technique.

Salon for sale

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For sale

For sale, choice plots in Defence Society, Karachi (Pakistan) — Phase 5, 1,000 sq. yards — Phase 6, 500 sq. yards. Interested buyers should write to: The Advertiser, P.O. Box 36090, Ras Salmiya 24751, Kuwait.

EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

DEBT is a bottomless sea — Thomas Carlyle, Scottish essayist-historian (1795-1881).

Rebels' plight

ANC shuns ex-members

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, (UPI): Eight blacks once joined the African National Congress to fight for the liberation of South Africa but were thrown into foreign wars instead and later imprisoned for asking why. They have returned home, shunned as traitors to the cause.

By their own accounts, they were the lucky ones. Hundreds of others were killed in the wars in Zimbabwe and Angola, tortured as spies of Pretoria's white government, or lined up before a firing squad and executed in one of the darkest chapters of the ANC's history.

Seven men and one woman involved in a 1984 uprising over the ANC strategies flew home last month after being formally expelled from the ANC last year. Their decision to return followed five years of detention, tight restrictions imposed by sentries in the movement and what they said were vain attempts to air their grievances.

Reception

Returning at a time when the ANC is reveling in forcing the minority government to the negotiating table for power-sharing talks, the eight have received a chilly, if not threatening reception.

Despite last month's admission by ANC leader Nelson Mandela that dissidents indeed had been tortured, the eight weathered a barrage of hostile and accusatory questions from disbelieving reporters at a recent news conference.

Had they decided to form a support group for relatives of other missing ANC cadres before or after meeting state security officials who detained them for 21 days for interrogation on their return?

What links had they with the dreaded Askaris, the former ANC cadres-turned-spies under the council of police intelligence? What has the government promised them? What is their relationship with an ambitious conservative black church leader accused of attempting to discredit the liberation movement?

Rodney Tswa, who left South Africa in 1975 and received military training in the Soviet Union, spoke on behalf of the group. He denied any sinister motives and said the eight remained loyal to the ANC through they opposed many of its senior leaders.

He confirmed allegations first raised by ANC dissidents, presently hiding in Kenya, who were involved in the same uprising.

These in Kenya have publicly called on Mandela to order a commission of inquiry into "continuing" ANC torture. Yet senior ANC officials insist the matter is closed and that those responsible for human rights violations "have been properly dealt with."

"Some of us left the country in 1975 and 1976 only to find that the conditions of exile were rather tough. But we were ready for them. We thought that we were going to get out training, come back and fight for our liberation," Tswa said.

"But this was not to be." Two ANC detachments, he said, were sent into what was then Rhodesia in 1979 to fight not only the forces of the minority regime of Ian Smith but also the guerrillas of Robert Mugabe, ironically now president of Zimbabwe and one of apartheid's bitterest foes.

Lost

"We lost many comrades who fell in those hushes of Rhodesia," he said. Opposition to the fighting was "smothered," he said, and dissidents were taken to an ANC camp known as Quatro in northern Angola in 1981.

Cadres in the Angola camps grew restless. Far from the front line of the war for liberation in South Africa, they demanded the ANC leadership in the Zambian capital of Lusaka call a conference to address the movement's strategies.

The reply, said Tswa, was truth and facts are not always correct. "Then came a decision to deploy up to 4,000 cadres alongside the Cuban-backed government in Luanda, Angola, against the US — and South African-financed, battle-hardened Unita guerrillas of Jonas Savimbi. ANC detachments were said to have suffered heavy losses."

"They always said we were in Angola as the reserve of the army," said Tswa, narrating the seeds of the uprising at ANC camps in Angola. "Any front has got a rear. Now the rear was thrown against Unita. At first there was that excitement ... but then we became sober because Unita retaliated."

With the help of Angolan troops, dissidents in the camps were disarmed, igniting a mutiny that took several days to put down. At the end, in May 1984, seven dissidents from one camp were lined up before a firing squad and, shent, another mutineer, Sipho Pungulwa, told reporters.

Mutiny leaders, including Tswa, were briefly held in a state security prison in Luanda, where two colleagues starved to death, then returned in Quatro where two others died in nuclear circumstances.

Interrogation

A senior member of the ANC, Steve Ishwete, acknowledged in April that there had been "excesses" during the interrogation of the mutineers. But he defended the ANC's efforts to put down the revolt.

"No army can play with mutineers," he said. "We had to suppress the mutiny with all the force at our disposal, just as any army would do when faced with a mutiny."

Four years after the mutiny, in 1988, the dissidents were transferred to an ANC camp Tanzania, where they were remained until their expulsion from the ANC in 1989. From there they fled to Dar Es Salaam and sought assistance from the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. During last year's visit by ANC leaders from South Africa released from imprisonment, among them Walter Sisulu, the mutineers were detained by Tanzanian security, Tswa said, and released only two days after the delegation had left.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1643 — Royalist plotters are arrested in London.
- 1793 — Reign of terror begins in French Revolution.
- 1850 — Universal suffrage in France is abolished.
- 1889 — Flood at Johnstown Pennsylvania (USA), takes more than 2,000 lives.
- 1902 — Peace of Vereeniging ends Boer War, in which British casualties numbered 5,774 killed and 16,000 deaths from disease, against 4,000 Boers killed in action.
- 1910 — Union of South Africa is founded.
- 1924 — China recognizes Soviet Union.
- 1937 — German fleet bombards Almeria, Spain, in reprisal for loyalist air attacks on its battleship Deutschland.
- 1954 — State of emergency is declared in Buganda, Uganda.
- 1961 — South Africa becomes independent republic outside British Commonwealth with C.R. Swart as president.
- 1962 — Adolf Eichmann, World War II Nazi Gestapo chief, is executed by hanging after Israeli court rejects appeal.
- 1966 — Court in the Congo sentences former premier Evariste Kimba and three others to death on charges of plotting to overthrow President Joseph Mobutu.
- 1970 — Earthquake hits Peru, leaving more than 66,000 dead, 30,000 missing and 200,000 injured.
- 1973 — US Senate votes to cut off all funds for US bombing operations in Cambodia.
- 1976 — Indonesia completes takeover of East Timor.
- 1987 — Shiite Muslim guerrillas fight Israeli-backed militiamen in Israel's self-proclaimed "security zone."
- 1989 — Israeli warplanes attack targets on outskirts of Sidon in Lebanon.

US defence secretary relieved

Nato reduces military guard

WASHINGTON, (Reuters): Perhaps US Defence Secretary Dick Cheney best typified Nato's relief this week as the Western alliance began to reduce its expensive military guard against Moscow for the first time in 40 years.

A year ago, I had to sell three per cent," he said, recalling Washington's repeated, unpopular calls for member states to raise military spending by three per cent a year.

"I'm much more comfortable this year," Cheney added with a grin on Monday while en route to Brussels, knowing that on Tuesday defence ministers would scrap that grating budget demand in response to the fall of the Warsaw Pact.

Slashed

By last night, the ministers' defence planning committee had also slashed expensive and unpopular war games and announced that the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation would begin slightly reducing its battle readiness on July 1.

"He isn't the only one who is more comfortable these days," a senior Nato official said on hearing the Cheney remark. "And to think it was Gorbachev who came over the hill and put us out of our financial misery."

Nato defence ministers ended a two-day meeting in Brussels on Wednesday with a pledge to look again at strategies formed in the 1960s, when the Warsaw Pact was seen as a major threat to the West and its values. The review is to be finished by the end of the year. A conference of Nato leaders in London in July is expected to agree on more guidelines.

Spurred

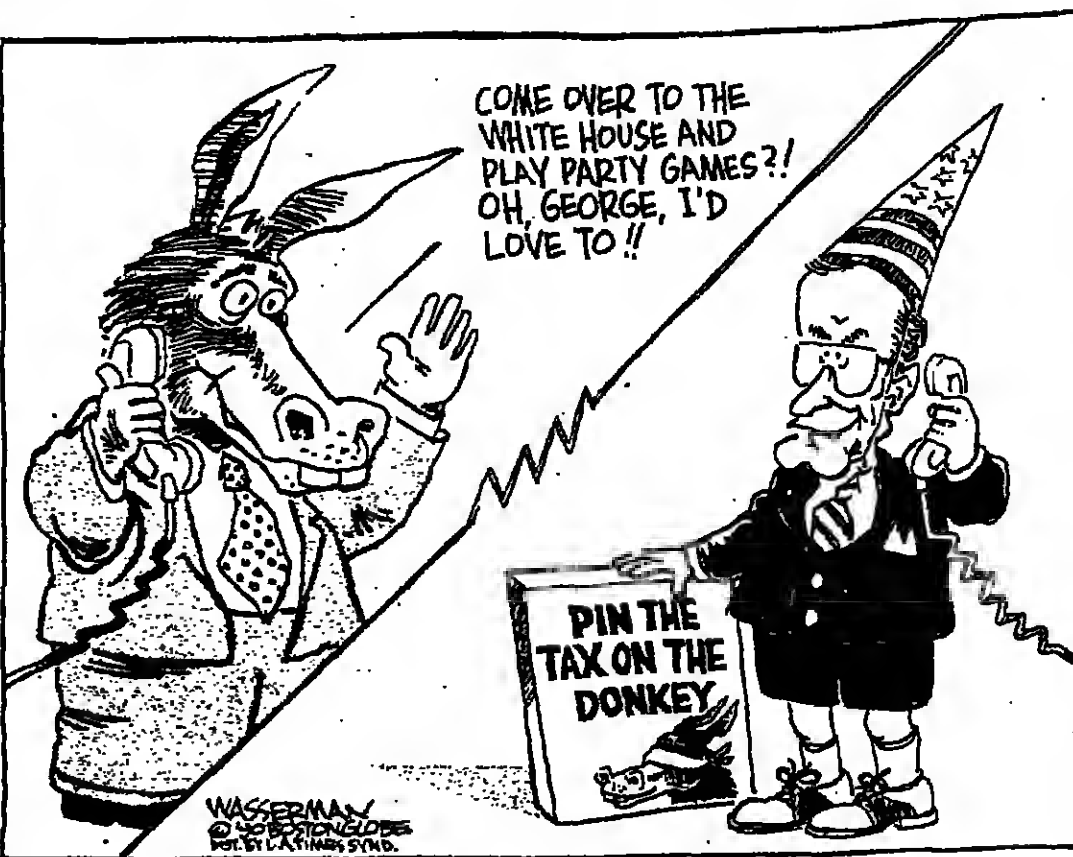
With the Soviet military spurred in Eastern Europe and getting fewer roubles at home, private defence analysts praised the Nato move to relax its military posture for the first time since it was formed in 1949.

"The cold war is history. We don't want to rip up the security blanket yet, but it's time to store guns and count dividends," said former US Assistant Defence Secretary Lawrence Korb of the Brookings Institution, a Washington think tank.

Analyst Jim Blackwell of the Centre for Strategic and International Studies think tank said Nato's move towards multi-national units was a good idea. They don't cost any less, but they signal togetherness with a lot of different flags in allied countries," he said.

Though some relaxation will take place, alliance officials say many key elements of strategy will be retained because of the threat of instability in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

Cheney and other senior US defence officials



appeared happy but low-key as they arrived home late yesterday.

Cheney and assistant defence secretary Stephen Hadley cautioned that the easing in military readiness would come in three phases and that its outcome would rest in large measure of Vienna negotiations on halving Conventional Force in Europe (CFE).

In July, Hadley said, a helicopter unit, for example, might be allowed to increase from four to 48 hours the time it must be ready to fight. That is a far cry from changing the current requirement that the United States be prepared to move 10 divisions to Europe within the 10 days of the breakout of a war,

said Cheney.

But Cheney, an acknowledged sceptic of Soviet intentions, also relented with perhaps the most optimistic public statement to come out of the Pentagon since the Berlin Wall began to crumble last year.

He said Nato forces would now have more warning time for any Soviet attack on Western Europe. "It's a judgement call. But I would be prepared to argue that we have now moved, as a result of the developments last year, from a situation in which we were talking about a matter of days to a situation in which we are talking about a matter of at least a few months," he said.

Letters to the editor

Future timing

SIR: This is in reference to Abdullah Dalvi's statement of 26.5.90, about the (NRI) meeting. It is widely known most Muslims go to pray on Friday. If any meeting is fixed on that day and at 11 am how can you expect the Muslims to attend the meetings?

When these people don't attend how can they know the situation and ongoing programmes of (NRI)? We request the (NRI) Forum organisers to be sure of the timing of the future meetings.

Taber Afzal,
Salimiyah.

Global detente

SIR: The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute in its released annual year book reported that India for the third successive year, has emerged as the world's largest arms importer spending \$3.8 billion annually. What an irony!

The global movement of detente has bypassed South Asia completely. The world which is otherwise being suffused with a glow of tentative peace between great nuclear powers and it is tragic to note that the Third World nations move into the realm of a conceivable destruction, due to proliferation of weapons.

This creation of zone of danger in South East Asia, particularly due to untended regional disputes and political ambitions, is a human tragedy of greatest proportions. The declining miserable standards of living in South Asia has not opened the eyes of the politicians to divert the unopended expense on defence to development and progress.

In the last three years, India unfortunately has been involved in military interventions to exert its South Asian doctrine. The 1987 intervention in Sri Lanka, the 1988 operation in Maldives and the 1989 skirmishes in Siachen with the crack-down on internal fronts against the forces of secession. The Indian apologists justify these colossal interventions convincingly, asserting that India has defined regional objectives. Such grandiose aims cannot be achieved without a price, as there are no 'free lunches' in international strategic diplomacy.

The cash-strapped countries of the region are engaging unwillingly their limited resources to counter the menace created by their giant neighbour policy of building up its military machine. At a cost of \$7 billion collectively, the world's poorest nations deter each other; they are the high spenders on world's arms bazaars — what a shameful waste of resources!

Conventional disarmament is a must if one has to deal with food crisis, disasters, pollution, urbanisation and health of his people. Let's take a lesson from the developed world and spend our resources into innovations like, efficient management of our production base, improvement of food supplies, application and design of cheap energy resources, the creation of cheap housing and wide scale prevention of disease. All these opportunities which are quantifiable have been lost to militarism. What about the unquantifiable damage to democracy, human rights and sheer human suffering of the estimated 600 million of South Asia's poorest who are left in absolute poverty and are a legacy of the uncontrolled arms race.

Spending

We are spending less than \$2 per person for our health care expenditure, while in Europe it is approximately \$460 and in US \$1,900 per person. Disease is the most destructive force in our part of the world today. Let's wage a war against this single-most destructive force.

200 million will die prematurely — out of them, 50 million from South Asian region. Most of them could be saved if we just shift small resources to health care. According to WHO

report, in South Asia, 250 million people have intestinal worms, 300 million are infected with Hepatitis B (a liver infection), 600 million people have vaccine preventable diseases, 700 million suffer from anaemia. All of this can be avoided considerably if we define our priorities well.

Just one year ban on import of arms in the South Asian region will save the governments of the region \$7.8 billion — \$3.8 billion for India, \$2.2 billion for Pakistan, and \$1.8 billion for Sri Lanka and Bangladesh.

Hunger can be wiped out not only from South Asia, but the face of the earth if sufficient action is taken now. The problems are not being tackled because resources are wrongly allocated. Just 20 per cent diversion from \$7.8 billion arms imports bill can bring miracles.

The territorial disputes, national pride and denial of human rights are cancers of our system. Let reason and logic prevail to avert looming clouds of war, either all of us survive together or mutual destruction and abyss will be the eventual fate of our nations. In wars, there are no conquerors, there are only losers; let's launch a war against poverty, disease, hunger and abuse of human rights by eliminating militarism and invasive surgical solution to political issues.

Iqbal Latif,
Kuwait.

Much obliged

SIR: This refers to the letter from Abdullah Dalvi in your paper dated July 26th 1990. We are obliged to Dalvi for drawing our attention to an inconvenience caused to him and possibly some others. The fixing of the time for the meeting solely depended upon the availability of the Indian Embassy auditorium for the purpose and it was in no way intentional.

We are happy to know that Dalvi and his friends are interested in attending the conference in New Delhi. We will definitely organise a separate meeting for them with our officials concerned if there is a group which would like to know more than what has been already published about the conference.

On the other hand, it would be easier if Dalvi could contact us and let us know his address so that we could send him the necessary literature and all the relevant information, and the same applies to his friends. I will take this opportunity of thanking the Arab Times for supporting our efforts to make the conference a success and useful to NRIs in Kuwait.

CSS Khanpuri,
Chairman
NRI Investors Forum, Kuwait.

Kashmir dispute

SIR: For the last five months the dispute of Jammu and Kashmir has taken the headlines of world media and press. You might have gone through many articles about Kashmir. Here I want to analyse the stand of the governments of Pakistan and India on Kashmir in the light of letter and spirit of Simla agreement.

The Simla agreement has four basic points relevant to Kashmir as follows:

- 1) India and Pakistan are committed to UN charter.
- 2) All issues including dispute of Jammu and Kashmir have to be solved bilaterally.
- 3) All propaganda which affects normalisation of relation should be stopped.
- 4) A new line of control has to be demarcated between Pakistan-controlled Kashmir and Indian-controlled Kashmir with their prevailing position at the time of ceasefire.

From the above-mentioned points, it is very clear that the Simla agreement binds the government of Pakistan and the government of India to solve dispute of Jammu and Kashmir bilaterally

on the basis of UN charter.

First of all I want to draw attention to the UN charter.

UN charter clearly says that all UN resolutions passed by the Security Council have to be implemented by all UN members irrespective of their approval or disapproval. India was actually the initiator of the resolution on Jammu and Kashmir. The mandate of UN resolution will remain the same until and unless it is overruled by another resolution passed by the Security Council on the same subject.

The stand of the government of Pakistan on Kashmir is very clear and totally according to the Simla agreement that dispute of Jammu and Kashmir has to be solved bilaterally on the basis of UN resolution. Recently the prime minister of Pakistan offered the Indian prime minister to start dialogue on Kashmir on the basis of UN resolution, which India rejected.

Now take the Indian stand on Kashmir which says:

- 1) Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India.
- 2) India is committed to the Simla agreement.
- 3) UN resolution related to Kashmir becomes irrelevant after the signing of the Simla agreement.

If you analyse the Indian stand on the basis of the Simla agreement you will find self-contradiction in their stand, such as if India is sincerely committed to the Simla agreement then India is also consenting that state of Jammu and Kashmir is disputed area. There is no clause in the Simla agreement which says that only Pakistan-controlled Kashmir or Indian-controlled Kashmir is disputed area. It is the whole state of Jammu and Kashmir that is disputed area.

India's stand that UN resolution on Kashmir becomes irrelevant after signing the Simla agreement is unjustified. By committing to follow UN charter in the Simla agreement, India binds herself to UN resolution relevant to Kashmir.

Now take the third point of the Simla agreement related to propaganda.

The government of Pakistan has full rights under UN charter to tell UN members about activities of Indian forces on civilian population of disputed Jammu and Kashmir.

There is some argument from the Indian side that the line of control established under 1948 UN resolution has changed, so the UN resolutions on Kashmir become nullified. As you may know the line of control established under the mandate of 1948 UN resolution are supervised by UN observers. These observers are still there and observing the new line of control. There is no clause in the Simla agreement which says that after signing this agreement work of UN observers should be stopped.

Finally the Simla agreement gives us golden opportunity to solve the dispute of Jammu and Kashmir bilaterally on the basis of UN resolutions.

UN resolutions are actually the agenda of the talks. Pakistan is not saying that Kashmir dispute has to be solved in UN headquarters, it can be solved in Delhi or in Islamabad.

I appeal to the prime minister of India to accept the offer of the prime minister of Pakistan for talks on the basis of UN resolutions which is according to the Simla agreement.

Iqbal Ahmad Faruqi,
Salalikhhat.

ALL Letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

Prague

Civic Forum poised to win free polls

PRAGUE, (Reuters): Czechoslovakia's Civic Forum movement acted as the catalyst for the overthrow of communist rule six months ago. Now, despite its leaders' protestations that it is not a political party as such, it is poised to win the country's first free elections for 44 years.

Unlike other similar groupings, such as East Germany's New Forum which helped bring down a communist regime but then faded before democratic elections, Civic Forum has managed to hold on to the political initiative and convert it into an almost certain victory at the polls on June 8 and 9.

"We're doing quite well, we're learning much faster than the others," Civic Forum's leader Jan Urban told Reuters in an interview.

With opinion polls constantly putting Civic Forum at the head of voters' preferences — nation-wide between 20 and 25 per cent, but up to almost 50 per cent in a stronghold like Prague — Urban sits at the centre of Czechoslovakia's most popular political organisation by far.

Together with its sister grouping Public Against Violence, which operates in Slovakia while Civic Forum works in Bohemia and Moravia, the movement can expect to win twice as many parliamentary seats as any other group and dominate post-election negotiations on the formation of a new government.

"It's quite clear that we're on an up, we want to keep it, that way," Urban said.

Among techniques used to retain people's attention and keep Civic Forum — which was created to campaign for civil rights — at centre stage are repeated warnings of "dirty tricks" campaigns to discredit Czechoslovakia's moves towards full democracy.

"We feel the only way our political opponents from the old regime could gain some ground would be to destabilise the situation by disinformation and by discrediting the results of the elections," said Urban.

"We just cannot give them the chance." The Central Electoral Commission organising the polling admits problems in drawing up accurate lists of voters, but it is confident of averting any serious possibility of fraud.

Urban himself is not standing in the general election but he directs and supervises an increasingly professional, young and enthusiastic body of paid staff and volunteers.

"All of us are learning because this is the first election campaign in our lives ... we're very pleased at how active people have started to be," he said.

"At the beginning of Civic Forum, we dreamed about having active, competent people throughout the country. Now it's clear, we have them."

Civic Forum was founded by dissident playwright Vaclav Havel and others last November, the day after a brutal police attack on a student demonstration.

It brought together a wide range of opposition groups and provided the focus for a real challenge to the country's hardline communist rulers.

Within two weeks, the Communist Party had been forced to give up its monopoly on power.

Another two weeks later, Civic Forum nominees — mostly former dissidents, defectors and persecuted for years — became senior ministers in a government not dominated by communists, and by the end of the year Havel was president of Czechoslovakia.

Television coverage of recent presidential visits to various parts of Czechoslovakia has brought protests from other parties that reporting Havel gives Civic Forum unfair publicity.

The Electoral Commission upheld complaints about a rally to celebrate the six-month anniversary of the start of freedom and democracy.

It was broadcast live — with speeches from the balcony of Civic Forum's headquarters, bearded with election banners, and with Havel declaring he was going to vote for Civic Forum candidates on June 8.

Civic Forum has always insisted it is a wide-ranging political movement rather than a party, and cannot be pinned to any specific point on the political spectrum.

"Like Solidarity in Poland, it's impossible to describe Civic Forum in Czechoslovakia as left or right with the traditional 'Western democratic vocabulary,' Urban said.

He sees the movement disbanding and starting afresh after the elections, becoming a sort of nation-wide advice centre and campaigning vehicle.

"I would want to fire everyone after the elections and start a nucleus of really professional managers able to organise things," Urban explained.

People with difficulties in starting private enterprises, or restructuring agricultural co-operatives, or problems with local government or investment, could turn to their Civic Forum branch for professional advice.

"If you have a problem, ask Civic Forum," said Urban. "We would have a small, flexible structure without the remnants of the old party ideology we're fed up with."

In the meantime, Urban is clear that Civic Forum is supported mostly by young people, educated people and those from large towns and it needs to do more to ensure victory in the general election.

"Now we have to concentrate on the more emotional message and attract older people, those in rural areas and non-educated people," he said.

QUOTE ME

"Intellectual passion drives our sensuality." — Leonardo da Vinci.

"Where the willingness is great, the difficulties cannot be great." — Italian Renaissance statesman, Niccolò Machiavelli.

"How could we go on without Russia if it goes in another direction? If some other republic enters its right to secede from the union, it would involve upon the interests of other republics, but we must survive. But the USSR is unthinkable without Russia." — Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

"Discipline is the soul of an army. It makes small numbers formidable, procures success to the weak, and esteem to all." — George Washington.

JAWAB

BUSINESS

Turkish company tries to break monopoly

ISTANBUL, Turkey, May 30. (AP) A private Turkish company is attempting to break the state monopoly on television broadcasting and capture a share of its lucrative advertising revenues.

Magic Box, a company set up by the Rumeli banking and construction group, has started daily test transmissions from studios near Frankfurt, West Germany, via satellite. The company plans to begin full-time broadcasting in September.

Magic Box, which relies on viewers having a dish antenna atop their roofs to catch its signal, has already cornered one of the most popular TV events — live transmission of soccer games. It signed three-year contracts with all 18 soccer clubs in Turkey's major league, according to company officials.

The company has agreed to pay a minimum of \$60,000 a game, said Tunca Toskay, a former director of the state radio and television network TRT and current chief executive of Magic Box.

Having the rights to the soccer games would lend the fledgling enterprise prestige and win a share of 330 billion Turkish lira (\$129 million) TRT earned from advertisements last year, company officials say.

Magic Box programmes will be mostly entertainment, music shows and the like, at the beginning. News programmes from CNN and others as well as movies will be added later.

But the new venture is at the centre of a legal controversy before it has hit the airwaves.

Turkey's 1982 constitution, promulgated by then ruling generals, stipulates that only the state can own and operate radio and TV stations in the country.

The chief purpose of the monopoly was to prevent political views deemed undesirable, such as Marxism and Muslim fundamentalism, from reaching audiences. News programmes and even movies are still carefully edited.

British economy slowing down

LONDON, May 30. (Reuters) Britain's economy is slowing down but stubborn inflation means British interest rates are likely to stay high for some months, independent economists said on Tuesday.

Gross domestic product (GDP) statistics, a measure of economic activity, issued on Tuesday showed the government's policy of trying to throttle back growth was working, they said.

"There's a gradual slowdown in output, but this isn't aggressive enough to bring about a wave of deflation," said Joe Roseman, economist at stockbrokers UBS Phillips and Drew. Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government, lagging well behind the opposition Labour Party in opinion polls, has embarked on a painful and unpopular policy of using high interest rates to rein in a year-on-year inflation rate which in April stood at 4.4 per cent.

The Central Statistical Office (CSO) said output-based GDP in the first three months of this year gave a year-on-year rise of 1.5 per cent, down from a rate of two per cent the previous quarter. Growth was strongest in manufacturing and services.

Economists pointed to expansion in the service sector, which includes retailers, as a sign upward pressure on inflation remained.

The latest figures show "consumer spending still is relatively buoyant," said David Walton, economist at Goldman Sachs International Ltd.

ADB approves grants to Laos

MANILA, May 30. (UPI) The Asian Development Bank announced today it had approved a \$100,000 technical assistance grant to Laos for a study on the privatisation of state-owned enterprises.

Another \$99,500 grant was approved for Laos to help prepare the country's third five-year economic development plan (1991-95).

The Manila-based bank also announced the approval of the following small-scale technical assistance grants: \$100,000 to Bangladesh to formulate a five-year (1990-95) corporate plan for Bangladesh railways and another \$100,000 for a programme to improve secondary education.

\$100,000 to Malaysia to develop community-based livelihood development projects.

IBK continues to play dynamic role

Bank's assets growing, says study

The Industrial Bank of Kuwait continued to play its vital and dynamic role in supporting the industrialisation process in Kuwait through industrial financing, promotion of new industries and provision of consulting services to industrialists. 1989 was a successful year from the point of view of profitability. IBK assets increased by 2.8 per cent during the year, according to Saleh M. Al Yousuf, Chairman and managing director of IBK.

However, such growth was neither at the expense of profitability nor did it interfere with our determined policy of consolidation and diversification. Moreover, the bank finalised the amendments to its Articles of Association which will widen its scope of activities and emphasise its industrial identity. The bank will be able to provide as of 1990 all retail banking and related services to industrialists.

Furthermore, pursuant to these amendments the bank formulated the new strategy that will govern its future action and determine its avenues of expansion and pattern of growth.

IBK's annual report said due to the confidence in bank's experience in project financing, the government assigned it the management of the agricultural financing portfolio which started its operations this year.

The bank was particularly active this year in the field of training and consulting services. Recognising the role of training in upgrading the quality and ability of management, the bank organised intensive training programmes for the middle management of industrial companies.

Moreover, the know-how and research capabilities of IBK were put at the service of several governmental departments and local authorities and institutions. Last but not least, the Kuwaitisation process, based on productivity, continued on assured ground this year. He said that the ratio of the Kuwaiti labour force in the bank has reached 30 per cent this year.

The achievements of the Industrial Bank of Kuwait in the industrialisation and develop-

ment process of the Kuwaiti economy is attributed to the co-operative efforts of its staff members and their devotion and dedication to their work.

Steady growth, buoyant trade, rising interest rates, successfully controlled inflation and improved regional imbalances were the main features of the world economy in 1989. Despite the October mini-crisis in the international financial markets, the behaviour of the fundamental macro-variables was not affected and stability of the world economy quickly returned to normal.

On the domestic level, the rebounding of international oil prices brought with it improved GDP performance compared to 1988.

Industrial investment flourished and industrial loan financing by IBK went up sharply in 1989 compared with the last few years.

The Industrial Bank of Kuwait was established in late 1973, at the initiative of the Kuwaiti government, as a joint undertaking between the Minis-



Saleh M. Al Yousuf

try of Finance, the Central Bank, the commercial banks, insurance companies and some large industrial establishments. The primary goal of IBK is to promote industrial development in Kuwait by pursuing the following objectives:

- To participate in developing a long-term strategy for industrial growth in Kuwait, identifying those sectors and activities which would best fit local conditions and constraints.
- To initiate industrial projects and investments in promising sectors.

■ To provide equity, medium and long-term credits for new projects as well as for expansion of existing ones.

■ To provide all banking services to industrialists in Kuwait.

■ To finance projects outside Kuwait with emphasis on the Gulf region, especially where Kuwaiti participation is involved.

■ To bring needed technology to Kuwait and identify foreign partners with the necessary expertise.

■ To support the development of domestic money and capital markets in co-operation with other major financial institutions. The development of these markets will facilitate the channelling of private savings into industrial investments in and outside Kuwait.

The year 1989 can be safely regarded as the year of a successfully engineered "soft land" for the US economy as part of a determined international effort to control inflation. The beginning of 1989 witnessed the entrance of the US into an

unprecedented seventh consecutive year of post-war economic expansion.

This upsurge brought with it the emergence of inflationary pressures fuelled by rising commodity prices. The mandate of the Federal Reserve was to engineer a slowdown in growth sufficient to curb inflationary pressures without allowing the economy to slide into an outright recession. By the end of 1989, it became unmistakably clear that the Federal Reserve was succeeding in its objective.

Following a 1988 GNP growth rate of 4.4 per cent, the second highest record in the current boom, growth subsided during 1989 to an expected 2.9 per cent.

Industrial capacity utilisation, which was 84.3 per cent in January, declined slightly but remained at a high level registering 82.8 per cent in October. The unemployment rate, which usually lags economic conditions, declined during the early part of the year and then rose to reach 5.4 per cent in November from a low of 5.0 per cent in March.

This year, US economic performance was outpaced by that of its main trading partners, W. Germany and Japan. With GNP growing at an annual rate of 4.2 per cent in the first three quarters, W. Germany is likely to achieve a record 4 per cent growth in 1989, boosted by a surge in business investment and export growth. 'Employment, which had been expected to worsen, improved with the unemployment rate declining from 8 per cent in January to 7.6 per cent in June while capacity utilisation hovered around the 90 per cent level for most of the year. Japan experienced similarly strong growth. Despite a weak second quarter, economic growth for the first three quarters was 4.6 per cent with an expected growth rate of 4.5 per cent for 1989. Unemployment averaged 2.3 per cent during the first 10 months of the year. The UK was the only country which displayed significant weakness with GNP growing by 2.1 per cent up to September and a slightly lower rate expected for the year as a whole.

Venezuela spreads word

Plans to stay in oil's big league

LONDON, May 30. (Reuters) Venezuela is spreading the word that it intends to stay in the big league of leading Opec oil suppliers through to the end of the century and plans to seek foreign firms' participation to expand its petroleum industry.

Andres Sosa Pietri, recently appointed president of state energy group Petroleos de Venezuela S.A. (PDVSA), told reporters today during a visit to Britain that "only five or six oil exporting countries have the capacity to increase production. Venezuela is the only one in the Western Hemisphere."

"We want the United States and the European Economic Community to know that Venezuela is a reliable supplier that never used oil as a commercial

weapon."

Venezuela, a founder member 30 years ago of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, wants to double current crude oil output of about two million barrels per day (bpd) and also exploit reserves of bitumen, coal and gas, he added.

It might look to joint ventures with foreign firms to help with technology both in different areas of production and in refining its various types of petroleum to turn out products which would meet increasingly strict environmental standards.

Venezuela nationalised its oil industry in 1976.

Sosa Pietri said it was still looking for a formula which would let foreign firms back in without loss of sovereignty over

its resources, adding that this should not be too difficult.

The state would continue to own the petroleum in the ground.

"Production was always done by corporations who paid the state royalties and taxes. Before 1976 they were 100 per cent foreign. Since 1976 it has been 100 per cent state. All we are saying is that we may now have cases of 50-50," he said.

"We have not got the final answer yet. This will require further talks with the government and the companies."

"It will not be the old system of concession and service contracts. We are doing the exploration ourselves... we want partners to add to our competitive advantage."

But it was wrong to think that

PDVSA buying of storage and oil terminal facilities in the Caribbean was a competitive move "to try to exclude Mideast and African oil from the Western Hemisphere."

From Sosa Pietri's comments, it appeared that Venezuela, like Kuwait, saw Eastern Europe as a potential petroleum market.

Questioned on existing and on possibly expanded PDVSA links with the German Veba AG group, he said: "Veba gives us a window to Eastern Europe."

In the Western Hemisphere, US, European and Japanese groups were interested in a projected \$2.5 billion joint venture to supply 675 million cubic feet of Venezuelan liquefied natural gas (LNG) to the United States.



Executives visit Bahrain

Senior Cathay Pacific executives from Hong Kong visited Bahrain recently to meet government and private sector officials and attend a conference with the airline's regional staff. The officials also addressed a well attended press conference at the Regency Inter-Continental Hotel to brief reporters on recent developments in the airline. At the conference (from left) are two executives from Hong Kong, David Bell, group PR manager for the Swire Group and Cathay-Pacific and Mike Thacker, the airline's commercial director, Robert Alkinson, Cathay's general manager, Middle East and India, Rajeev Budhiraja, pricing and marketing services manager, Middle East, and Akram Miknas, president, Fortune Promoseven, the airline's Gulf advertising and PR agency.

World Bank approves big loan for China

WASHINGTON, May 30. (AP) A World Bank spokesman reported that representatives of 152 governments unanimously approved \$300 million for China on Tuesday, the bank's biggest loan to China since tanks suppressed the pro-democracy movement there last June.

Approval came despite protests in the US Congress and from Chinese student groups in this country.

The United States contributes more than any other country to the bank, which is the biggest source of aid to the Third World. Patrick Coady, the US executive director, is one of the 22 members on the board that met Tuesday and approved the loan behind closed doors.

Until last year, China was one of the bank's two biggest borrowers, along with India. It borrowed

\$1.35 billion in the 12 months that ended last March 30. Since then it has only had \$140 million.

The new loan will go largely for planting trees in 15 Chinese provinces. China can take 40 years to repay it, at less than 1 per cent yearly interest.

Within a week after tanks went into Tiananmen Square, bank president Barber Conable held up loans to China worth \$780 million. Then President George Bush asked that loans be withheld. Later, he said they should be granted only for basic human needs.

US Treasury spokesman Robert Levine said after Tuesday's board decision that the forestry loan qualified under that definition because it provides jobs, fuel and housing material for low-income farmers. It is part of a \$500 million project, for which China will provide the other \$200 million.

East Germany pushes privatisation

Move to protect creaking industries

BONN, May 30. (Reuters) East Germany plans to accelerate the privatisation of state-owned companies but at the same time protect its creaking industries in a unified German economy.

Economics Minister Gerhard Pohl said on Tuesday parliament would soon reorganise the state agency responsible for turning state companies into private enterprise minded concerns.

Only 170 of 8,000 state firms have been prepared for privatisation by being converted into state-owned private companies since the collapse of communist rule in East Germany late last year.

"If we carry on like this, it will take five years before we have converted everything. We need to act more quickly," Pohl told a news conference.

But in a simultaneous move, which ran counter to the spirit of the free-market economy, he said imports of West German consumer goods would face a temporary import duty of 11 per cent to

protect East German industry.

The tax takes effect on July 1 when East and West Germany are due to merge their economies under a treaty on currency and economic union signed this month.

Speaking after talks in Bonn with West German Economics Minister Helmut Haussman, Pohl said the government wanted to attract investors to buy shares in East German companies and help reduce its huge budget deficit.

The break-up of state monopolies is seen as an essential part of establishing a market economy after the introduction of West Germany's currency in East Germany.

Haussman said he believed the break-up of unwieldy state enterprises and the growth of a host of new small and medium-sized companies would lead to rapid economic growth.

EEC consumer prices up

LUXEMBOURG, May 30. (AP) Pushed by sharp rises in Britain, Portugal and Greece, the inflation rate for the 12 European Economic Community countries rose 0.9 per cent in April, the EEC's statistical agency Eurostat, said Tuesday.

The increase was faster than a 0.5 per cent rise in March and up from a 0.6 per cent increase a year earlier.

Eurostat said in a statement the consumer price index for the EEC as a whole rose 5.4 per cent in the 12 months to April, higher than a 4.7 per cent increase in the United States and a 2.4 per cent rise in Japan during the same period.

US warns central banks against sabotaging global economy

PARIS, May 30. (Reuters) US Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady issued a thinly veiled warning today to the world's central banks against sabotaging global economic growth by pushing interest rates too high.

"We need to maintain a balanced view of the inflation risk and not allow excess concern to undermine the prospects for continued economic expansion," he told the annual ministerial meeting of the OECD Club of 24 rich nations in Paris.

The Bush administration is worried that the independent central banks of the United States and West Germany will over-estimate the inflation threat and raise interest rates, choking off eight years of expansion in the world's leading economies.

In the latest sign of sluggish US economic growth, the Commerce Department said in Washington today that the government's main barometer of future economic trends fell in April, dragged down by a weak housing market.

"Inflation developments in some countries have been a matter of some concern, but with the passing of some transitory factors they should remain under control," Brady told fellow ministers in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

US inflation shot to its highest level in seven years in the first three months of 1990, but the administration has argued that

was largely due to special factors, such as an unusually harsh winter that boosted oil prices and consumption.

Brady got support for his views from some of his fellow ministers and from the OECD itself, which forecast that inflation in its 24-member nations would remain little changed this year and next, at just less than 4-1/2 per cent.

West German Economics Minister Helmut Haussman told the OECD that there was no reason to fear upward pressure on prices from the economic unification of his country with East Germany.

Foreign investors are worried that East German consumers will go on a spending spree after they swap their own country's currency for West German marks on July 1.

"Price pressure from unification is not to be feared," Haussman said. "Even if East German savers, after monetary union, increase their demand for consumer goods this will be a one-off effect."

He said West Germany was determined to limit inflation to three per cent after the treaty for German economic and monetary union takes effect next month. Last year, inflation in West Germany was 2-1/2 per cent.

Some of the other nations of Europe have tried to take pressure off West Germany to raise its interest rates by lowering



US Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady (right) chats with Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Younts, at the opening session of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) meeting yesterday. Finance and trade ministers from the world's richest countries began talks with the United States challenging Western Europe to prove its commitment to eradicate trade barriers. (Reuters wirephoto)

theirs. That is designed to buttress the value of the West German mark on world currency markets, keeping the price of the country's imports low.

But there is a limit to how far that strategy can be followed. Italian Budget Minister Paolo Pomicino ruled out today any further short-term cut in his country's key interest rate.

"We do not consider at this stage that we can proceed with a further cut in the discount rate," he told a news conference.

Italy cut its discount rate to 12.5 per cent from 13.5 on May 19.

Not all the ministers sound as optimistic about inflation as Haussman and Brady. British Chancellor of the Exchequer

John Major told the OECD meeting that inflation was still a danger.

"The main risk to continued growth and prosperity in our economies is undoubtedly inflation," he said.

He pledged to keep interest rates in Britain high for as long as needed to bring inflation out of the economy.

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Horseback riding preceded the wheel

By Rob Stein

WASHINGTON, (UPI): A scientist has reported he found the first direct proof that ancient humans rode horses before the wheel was invented—stallion teeth with bridge marks dating nearly 6,000 years.

A microscopic study of horse teeth buried about 4000 BC and discovered in what is now the Ukraine in the Soviet Union, revealed scratches from a mouth bite, indicates the horse had been ridden, said David Anthony of Hartwick College in Oneonta, New York.

"There has been previous speculation that horseback riding occurred this early. This is the first direct proof," said Anthony, an assistant professor of anthropology who presented his findings at the international conference on archaeozoology.

The traditional view is horseback riding developed between 2000 and 1500 BC in the Ukraine. While there had been some archaeological evidence that riding may have occurred earlier, there was no direct evidence, Anthony said.

Anthony travelled to Dereivka in the Ukraine last April to make plaster casts of teeth rooted in the skeleton of a stallion. The skeleton was found buried with two domesticated dogs, he said.

Anthony used a powerful microscope—a scanning electron microscope—to compare the casts to teeth from modern horses that had been ridden and wild American horses that had never been ridden.

I was looking for a technique so you could say this horse was ridden, this horse was just dinner," he joked.

Anthony said he found markings on the ancient horse teeth that were identical to scratches and damage he had found on the teeth of modern horses from metal bits attached to reins used to ride them.

"I saw exactly what I had seen on my modern domestic control horses that I had studied earlier—a kind of wear that never appears on wild horses."

"The chewing surface of the tooth is all abraded and cracked and broken. On a wild horse it is quite smooth," he said. "I can be quite sure it wasn't caused by chewing a rock."

If the horse had been ridden, it would have been 500 to 700 years before the invention of the wheel, which was believed to have occurred between 3000 and 3500 BC.

"The invention of the wheel has traditionally been as the first innovation in land transport. What we have is evidence that horseback riding preceded the wheel," he said.

Anthony was uncertain why the people who lived in the Ukraine then, known as the Sredni Stog culture, would have begun riding horses, which were commonly eaten during that period.

"If you ever see what kids do to animals—they'll ride a dog—I suspect it originated as a form of play," he said.

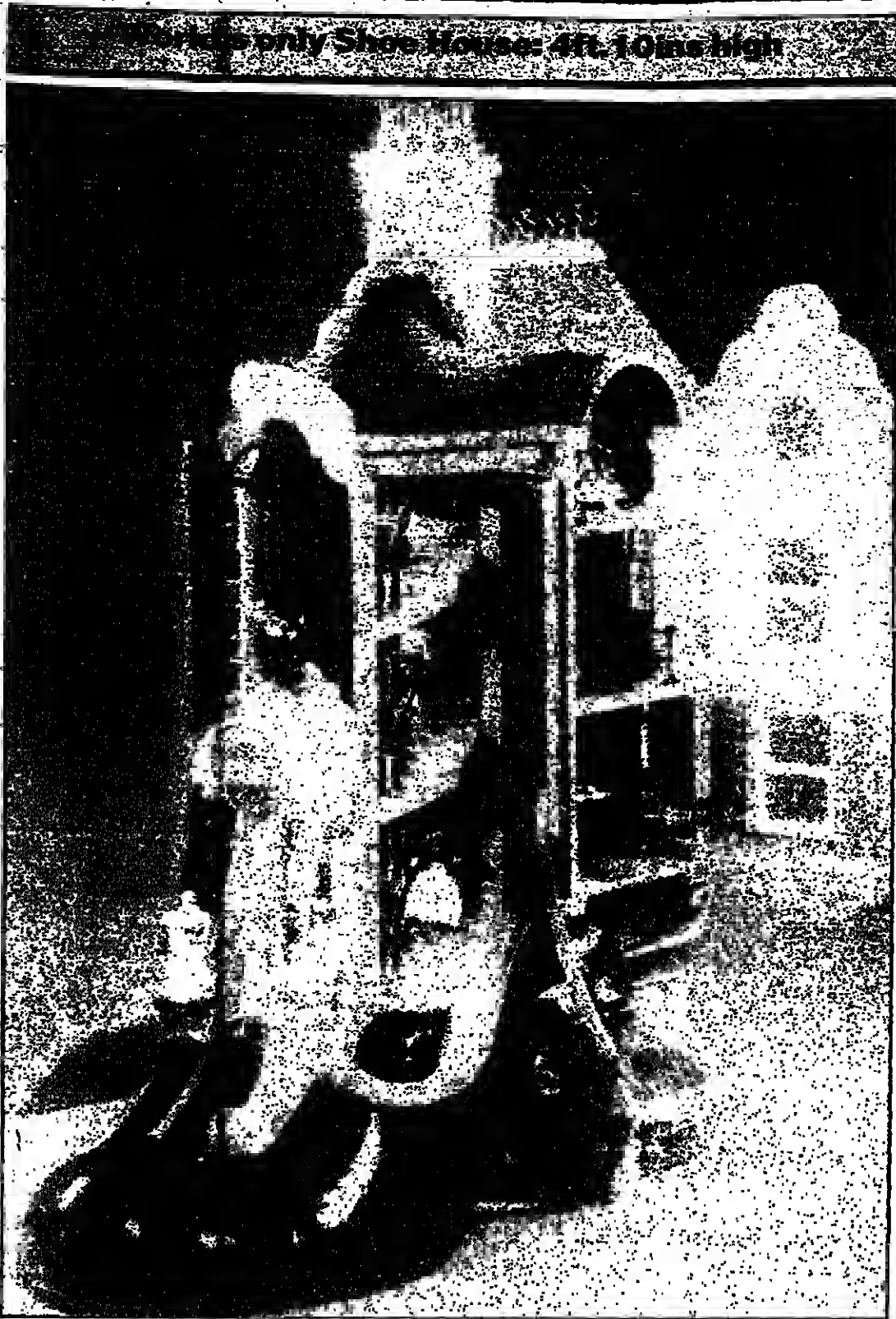
But the findings could help explain how the Sredni Stog people were able to survive in the harsh environment.

"Horses provided one of the key elements necessary to live productively in the grasslands," he said.

"I enabled them to find good grazing for their herds and trade farther distances. It enabled them to make alliances with more varied groups. It enabled them to make war in ways that were impossible before."

"You put together all these things and it revolutionized the history of the grasslands of Eurasia."

A major research question has been who spoke the original mother language. If the IndoEuropeans began in the Ukraine, as many people think, the domestication of the horse and the beginnings of riding could help explain the spread out from this area and the spread of the language with the people.



The buyer of this "Shoe House" would have to jump in feet first with an offer of £30,000 to £50,000.

Desirable home

Cost: £50,000

A DESIRABLE residence could be worth £50,000... even though it looks more like an old baby.

The 4 ft. 10 ins. dolls' house, complete with Victorian people and miniature furniture, has lights that switch on and off and fires and stoves that "light". There is even some hidden treasure, just waiting to be found.

Every tiny detail, right down to the baby, nanny and birdhouse cake in the nursery, is perfect. And the Shoe House is the only residence of its kind in the world.

Take a tour of its tiny rooms... and get ready for some surprises.

The Nursery: Apart from the little, perfectly-fashioned baby and nanny, there is a high chair, metal pram, a minute jigsaw and, waiting for a game, is an elephant on wheels. There is even a tiny bowl of fruit, metal candles, a skipping rope and a metal stove that really works.

The bedroom: Has an iron bedstead and bedding, a brass fender

and fireplace as well as a little wooden washstand. All made for Lilliput-sized people. Then there is a wooden dressing mirror and oval table and two wooden doos.

The dining room: Four wooden peg dolls and a baby enjoy a meal at the tiny oval, gilded table. Above this hangs a delicate chandelier, and there are even some metal birds under a glass dome. Around the brass fireplace there is a little basket of wood, an upholstered armchair and a pink, yellow and cream sofa.

The bathroom: Two more wooden peg dolls are to be found waiting for a scrub. Ready for them is a wicker chair, porcelain bathtub, wooden washstand, china jug and basin.

The sunroom: Has two secrets. If the painted sun on the floor is turned one way, it opens to reveal an empty room. Turned the other way, a Father Christmas with a box of crackers appears.

And if you press a square knob on the wall beside a painting of a

rainbow, an engraved coin appears... the treasure at the end of the rainbow. A wooden lever next to the doorbell reveals another hidden room.

There are switches in each of the minutely detailed furnished rooms, which turn on the ceiling and wall lights. Press-buttons in each of the four chimneys "turn on" the stove or fire in the exquisitely designed rooms. The toy shop: Is hidden in the heel of this Victorian lady's polished boot and is full of miniature wooden toys. It has a glazed, bay window and counters above drawers that really work and is set in stained and varnished wood and beige suede.

The Shoe House was made in polished and natural wood, suede, brass and leather and took five years to perfect. It was made by toymaker Rof Fors in 1979 and is being auctioned by Sotheby's in London.

And with a price of £50,000, it would have to be a very rich old woman who lived in this shoe!

FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

Exercise, heat ease pain of arthritis

QUESTION: Sometime ago you wrote in a caring manner to a woman who didn't take her pills, although her doctor had prescribed them. Now I wonder if you have some similar words of advice for those of us who have arthritis. I was diagnosed recently and now have to take pills for the rest of my life! I have talked to others who hate to take pills every day. Are there some other ways you might suggest?

Answer: I would be happy to describe some alternative measures that I know can help you and others with similar problems. The most important thing is the proper blend of rest and activity, enough activity to keep joints moving and flexible and enough rest to allow painful joints (as well as tendons and muscles) to recuperate from their efforts. Sometimes an aid to walking, such as a cane or a walker, provides just enough assistance to joints that are overstressed to reduce the pain level considerably. Now and again, a splint or brace may be required, but that's for you and your doctor to decide.

Exercise is a wonderful help, particularly when it can be accomplished in the supportive environment of a pleasantly heated pool. Check local facilities for such classes. Heat, as well as gentle massage, can do wonders for an aching, joint and painful muscles. While any heating device is helpful, moist heat is a bit better than just a hot water bottle, and moist beating pads, hot soaks, or just a session in a hot tub can do much to reduce the pain. Careful though, check the temperatures carefully first to avoid burns, a not infrequent complication of overzealous use of heat.

But don't cast aside all the help that medications can provide when used properly. There is no shame in the regular and appropriate use of an analgesic,

nor you will become a "junkie" from taking oral medication such as aspirin, NSAIDS (non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs such as ibuprofen and many others) and acetaminophen, and the help they offer can be the difference between complete relief and unnecessary suffering.

Medications taken on a regular schedule are more effective than when taken just once in a while when the pain becomes too much to bear. Taking these medications under a doctor's direction in correct dosages, along with the use of some of these tips, may offer you the relief you surely deserve.

I thought you would like to know: If you were not aware of it, May is national melanoma/skin cancer detection and prevention month, sponsored by the American Academy of Dermatology. And malignant melanoma, a serious skin cancer characterized by the uncontrolled growth of melanin (pigment) producing tanning cells, is on the rise with 27,600 new cases reported in 1989, or about 1,500 more than in 1985.

I'm always frustrated when you send in questions to me about skin cancer, because it's most difficult to describe these lesions in words alone. But now I have just the weapon I need to help fight the war on skin cancer and give you the chance to see what we are talking about. A superbly prepared booklet with full-colour photographs is now available upon request and without charge. It's called "melanoma/skin cancer; you can recognize the symptoms" and you may obtain your copy by sending a stamped, self-addressed, business-size envelope to the American Academy of Dermatology, P.O. Box 3116, Evanston, Ill. 60204-3116.

This is the best publication I've seen to help you identify skin cancers, and obtain care in the swift and speedy fashion that provides the best outcome.

New kids fight for cola crown

By Judy Byrne

POP sensations New Kids On The Block have had the ultimate proof that they have arrived...

Not their triumph at the Los Angeles music awards in January when their album *Hangin' Tough* was voted the best of last year and they were chosen as the top rock-pop band. Not the Beatlemania-style reception they now get wherever they go.

And not the 30,000 fan letters a day or the 100,000 calls a week currently jamming their America fan line, soon to be duplicated in Britain.

No, the real proof that they have made it to the most major league is the £1,800,000 contract from Coca-Cola to weigh in the forces of Coke in the Pepsi versus Coca-Cola war.

They join an exclusive celebrity group that already includes Madonna, Michael Jackson, Michael J. Fox, George Michael and Don Johnson, David Bowie, Bros, Tina Turner and recent signing Kylie Minogue, whose deal with Coca-Cola could earn her £750,000.

Both companies are constantly scouting for expensive talent to keep the fizz in the campaigns that rage endlessly to woo our short-term thirst and long-term brand loyalty.

Around 300 million people around the world were drinking a Pepsi and 419 million freshening up with a Coke a day at the latest count. Pepsi wants to overtake Coke. Coke wants to pull further ahead. And the outcome is unrelenting warfare.

Despite the huge sums poured into a celebrity pockets in recent years, Coca-Cola admits it still regards as its benchmark the 1971 advertisement which reversed the usual order by creating a chart success.

It starred a collection of unknowns and went on to become the hit *I'd Like To Teach The World To Sing* for both the New Seekers and the Hillside Singers. Their combined sales topped the million mark.

The company decided to include in its campaign this year an updated version starring not only as many of the original cast as they could find but their children, too.

It took the Pinkerton Detective Agency five months to track them down. Some had been students who had moved on many times before they finally settled down.

But the most wanted was also the toughest to crack—the fresh young beauty who apparently led the singing but has since confessed she was really miming!

Linda Higson had been mistakenly entered in the company's books as Linda Hipson. In any case, she was by now Linda Neary, wife of Manchester solicitor and former international Rugby Union player Tony Neary, and mother of four young children.

Shooting was only five days away when a friend spotted an advertisement in the International Herald Tribune and told her.

Linda, who had been working as a nanny in Italy when she was chosen to front the original advertisement for a £200 fee, was whisked to Sacrofano, near Rome, with her two eldest children Kelly, 10, and Daniel, seven.



Pop sensation New Kids On The Block have been given a £1,800,000 contract from Coca-Cola.



Pepsi usually backs established groups but they made a shrewd exception in the early days of Bros.



Kylie Minogue's deal with Coca-Cola could earn her £750,000.

"I feel like Cinderella," she said. "I said 'no' when I was approached for the original ad but the TV crew used their considerable powers of persuasion and I agreed then I forget all about it."

"It was a great thrill but very definitely a one-off, I thought."

Now Linda had filmed the sequel in which she and her daughter "sing" lines from the original advertisement between flashbacks to the way she was 19 years ago.

Linda, who lives in large Victorian villa in extensive grounds in Alderley Edge, Cheshire, is not saying what Coca-Cola is paying her but "it won't make me wealthy".

Which also sets it apart from the celebrity contracts which have cost Pepsi and Coke megabucks over the last few years.

Madonna, for example, is believed to have cost Pepsi £2 million—yet to her it was just a drop in the £50 million she is reckoned to have earned in a decade that has included three multi-platinum albums and a dozen consecutive singles in the top five.

About the same time as she weighed in for Pepsi, she bought a Beverly Hills mansion on impulse for nearly £1-1/2 million.

Making a cola commercial is not exactly strenuous work, either. George Michael, the ex-Wham! star who reportedly got about half Madonna's fees from Coca-Cola, had to

appear on stage for only two of the 13 hours it took to shoot the advertisement.

He had a stand-in the rest of the time while 3,000 extras planted in the audience at New York's Madison Square Garden "filmed" him with dummy cameras and in the end, it was edited down to just two minutes anyway.

A company spokesman explained why he was chosen to represent Diet Coke in a deal that also included sponsoring a sell-out tour. "He is a very exciting personality and fun guy," he said. "These qualities are worth a lot of money in the advertising world and fit our young, healthy image."

Miami Vice star Don Johnson is another Coca-Cola front man, having earned £1,200,000 for just five hours work.

Most of the Coke-Pepsi money goes to musicians but Johnson is not the only actor to have cleaned up. Michael J. Fox made £3 million for two days' filming for Diet Pepsi and got a lot of job satisfaction out of it, too.

The advertisement, in which he goes down the fire escape to get a Diet Pepsi for a girl, was his own idea. Originally he was supposed to play a film star drinking from a can.

And afterwards he said: "I've had as many people stop me in the street and ask me, 'Aren't you that guy in the Diet Pepsi ad?' as I have had stop me and say 'Weren't you in Back to the Future?'"

The companies are extremely image-sensitive. Pepsi had invested huge sums in sponsoring David Bowie's Glass Spider tour of 60 shows in 15 countries and making a commercial co-starring him and Tina Turner when Bowie was accused of raping a woman.

The singer denied Wanda Nicholls' claims that he had raped and tortured her and told her he had Aids. A grand jury has since cleared him.

Pepsi refused to confirm that there was any connection between the allegations and the company's decision to pull off the Bowie-Turner advertisement and replace it with an old Michael Jackson one.

The official line was that it was because Jackson's album *Bad* was shooting up the charts. But there were those who wondered...

And Tina, now 51 with legs going on 20, has just been recruited a second time. As part of the Pepsi response to Coca-Cola's signing of New Kids On The Block, she has been given a £3-1/2 million fee for an advertisement as part of what is reckoned to be the most the company has ever paid out in a single contract.

The rest of the gigantic £25 million deal is backing for her six-month 16-century Foreign Affair tour.

The most flattering thing about it for her is that Pepsi turned to Tina after deciding to reject the Rolling Stones whose *Urban Jungle* tour was finally supported by the beer firm Budweiser.

A Pepsi spokesman said: "There were other problems which prevented any deal being signed with the Stones."

"At the end of the day, we thought we should be looking somewhere else and chose Tina."

"She is the same age as some of the Stones but she has a much fresher approach. She certainly doesn't look 51."

Tina walked out on her marriage to Ike Turner with the clothes she was wearing, a petrol charge card and 35 cents. She is no longer on her uppers. Last year, she bought a £1-1/2 million London home.

With refreshing honesty, she admits to needing a lot of cash. "I'd sooner shop than have sex," she says. "It gives me more pleasure than any other pursuit. I'd be lost without my gold card."

One of her aides admitted that sponsorship has now become an essential part of getting a major tour on the road at all.

Pepsi's policy, generally, has been to back established groups but they made a shrewd exception in the early days of Bros.

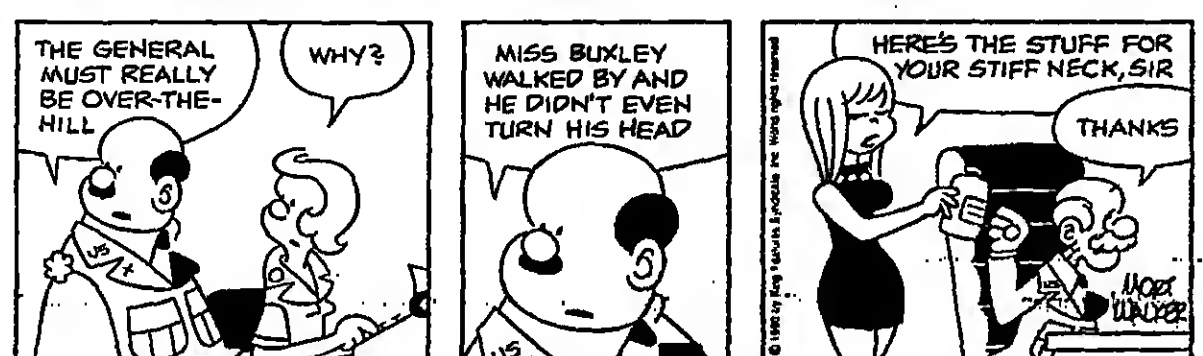
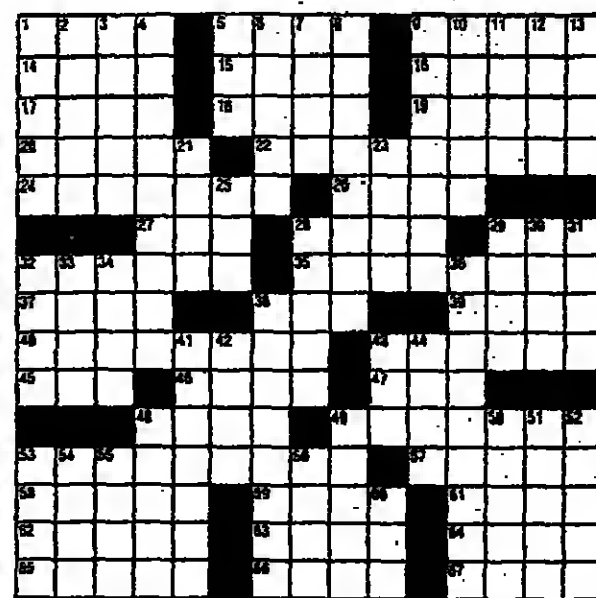
For a mere £250,000, they backed the groups debut tour of Britain and watched their proteges come from nowhere to teeny idols.

The company explained: "They are very clean-cut and go well with the Pepsi image."

They do not come much more clean-cut than the 14-year-old schoolboy who is soon to become the star of Coca-Cola's advertisement designed to coincide with football's World Cup finals in Italy.

Birmingham boy Elliot Stratton has been chosen to buy a can of Coke and kick a football in the street. The scene will then transform itself into a World Cup Stadium.

Football careers, it seems, also go better with Coke...

BLONDIE — By Dean Young & Stan Drake**HAGAR THE HORRIBLE** — By Dik Browne**AGATHA CRUMM** — By Bill Hoest**BEETLE BAILEY** — By Mort Walker**THE WIZARD OF ID** — By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart**ANDY CAPP****B.C.** — By Johnny Hart**HE-MAN** — By G. Forton & J. Shull**TODAY'S CROSSWORD**

- ACROSS**
- Bridge term
 - Press on
 - Bang
 - French military cap
 - Standard
 - Otherworldly
 - Currier's partner
 - Vanity case
 - Demolishes, in Soho
 - Respond
 - Watchful
 - Asia or Fala
 - Lay 'em in the aisles
 - Elevated railroads
 - Truss, upon
 - Surrealist
 - Salvador
 - Antique
 - Tell
 - Cowboy
 - Press
 - Have an otherworldly air
 - Alan, Frances or Robert
 - Beethoven's Sixth
 - Moslem salutation
 - Supernatural ending
 - Place kick
 - Have a fever
 - Misbehavin'
 - Pixies
 - Shrew
 - Get out of
 - Concerning
 - Ascend
 - So-be-it
 - Thicket
 - Jot
- DOWN**
- Varna captain
 - Leg joints
 - Dill, in the Bible
 - Despot
 - Small amount
 - Kilt
 - Quay
 - "A partridge in a tree"
 - Rascal
 - Before
 - Helicopter part
 - Mess offering
 - Envoy
 - Tract of land
 - Major
 - Appearance
 - Nuisance
 - Tip
 - A Fitzgerald
 - Japan or Siam
 - ending
 - Resided
 - Spanish jug
 - Mother of Castor and Pollux
 - 31 Small amount
 - Mature
 - Epochs
 - Mistake
 - Gadabout
 - Disney's 1940 tribute to classical music
 - Sleep-inducers
 - Ladder part
 - Fool
 - River at Leeds
 - Entertain
 - Avar
 - Domesticates
 - Plant disease
 - Mister, in Madrid
 - Change course at sea
 - Black, to a poet
 - Lasso
 - Middy
 - Deserter

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

ALANS MAIT AODS
SARAH AMIE LIRA
PINTO GEMA EMIT
COUNTINGSHEEP
REO LEA
CASE TAPE BLEEP
EVE SEEL EERIE
DIDNTSLEEPWINK
ALENE DARS CEE
BARBE HERD CARS
LOA PAR
SLEEPLESSNESS
MEAL STR GALT
EGGS RENT ESTER
NOISE ARIS SEEMS

GOREN BRIDGE**TOMMY TURNS UP TRUMPS**

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 9 5
♥ A 6 3
♦ 7 6 4 2
♣ A 8 4 3

WEST
♠ Q J 10
♥ Q 10 9 4
♦ 8 3
♣ J 10 9 5

EAST
♠ 8 7 4 3 2
♥ Void
♦ Q J 10 5
♣ K Q 7 2

SOUTH
♠ A K 6
♥ K J 8 7 5 2
♦ A K 9
♣ 6

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ Pass 2♥ Pass
4NT Pass 5♥ Pass
6♥ Pass 6♣ Pass
Opening lead: Queen of ♠

Players at the club wished that bridge was a game where unlimited substitutes were permitted. In that case, the club team could keep Trump Coup Tommy on the bench until such time when a deal came along that required his peculiar talents. Bring him in to declare in his usual dazzling fashion, then move him out again at the end of the play. As our readers are well aware,

Tommy was quite an ordinary player except in situations where trumps broke badly. Then he becomes the ace of aces.

Over the years, Tommy's bidding had shown signs of improvement—in the old days, he probably would have pushed to an unmakeable grand slam. As it was, the auction was alarmingly brisk, but a small slam was a reasonable contract.

West led the queen of spades, taken by the ace. Tommy instinctively made the correct technical play of leading to the ace of clubs and ruffing a club. When a trump to the ace revealed the 4-0 break, many declarers would have thrown in the sponge, for it looks as if there are two trump losers and a diamond. But Tommy was ahead of the game.

After ruffing another club, declarer cashed the remaining high spade and used a spade ruff as the entry for another club ruff. When both the ace and king of diamonds lived, Tommy was ready to claim his slam. West was down to nothing but three trumps, while South held K J of hearts and a losing diamond. Tommy exited with his diamond, forcing West to ruff and lead away from his queen of trumps into declarer's tenace. Making six-odd.

**YOUR STARS**

Aries
March 21 - April 20

Not everything is as easy as you would have liked but with a little more effort you will be able to manage. An old friend will unfortunately turn out to be nothing of the kind. You should try not to lose your temper. Be courteous.



Cancer
June 21 - July 20

You will be able to do something that will increase your self-esteem. However you should not make a nuisance of yourself. Everything you do seems to be taking longer than you had thought so do your best to avoid wasting time. Be generous.



Libra
Sept 21 - Oct 22

You will tend to do things a little haphazardly and should try to introduce a more order. Show more goodwill towards others. You will tend to have too many snacks and consequently put on weight. Be attentive.



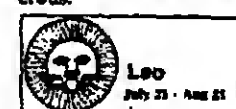
Capricorn
Dec 21 - Jan 19

You will tend to proceed in the wrong direction but there is still time to change course. Try to show a little more understanding towards those with whom you have to work. You should not take too much for granted. Be reasonable.



Taurus
April 21 - May 20

Pay more attention to what is happening around you. And do make sure your facts and figures are up to date. Do not take everything quite so seriously but do avoid frivolity, too. Be considerate.



Leo
July 21 - Aug 21

You will be able to do something to make amends and you will feel better as a result. You should do your best to introduce a little more order into a rather chaotic situation.



Scorpio
Oct 21 - Nov 21

You will be able to come close to an acquaintance and should avail yourself of the opportunity. You are all too liable to waste time on a wild goose chase, but by being aware of the trend you can curtail it. Your lucky numbers are 4 and 38.



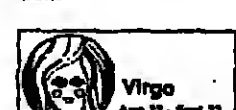
Aquarius
Jan 20 - Feb 19

Read a letter once again before sending it off. You should have the courage of your convictions and not let some small setback discourage you. Avoid saying one thing and then doing something quite different. Be trustworthy.



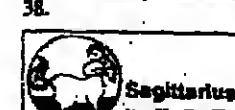
Gemini
May 21 - June 20

You will tend to tire rather easily and should ensure you do what needs to be done first of all. Do not leave anything fragile where it could be broken. Use a little more commonsense and try not to indulge in daydreams. Be reliable.



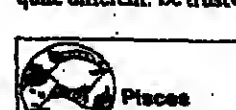
Virgo
Aug 21 - Sept 21

You are all too liable to act on impulse and should restrain yourself. Read a good book, but do not let it take precedence over your commitments. Take the best possible care of your health. Be more patient.



Sagittarius
Nov 21 - Dec 20

You should do all you can to avoid getting into an argument. Have a little more faith in yourself and persevere with what you are doing. A prediction towards eating sweets and biscuits should be curbed. Be careful.



Pisces
Feb 20 - March 20

You will be rather disinclined to get down to matters and will have to use more willpower. Try not to allow things to get out of order, if you do you will waste a lot of time trying to find things. You should not expect others to behave just as you would wish them to.



"We want something to match our carpet. What have you got with cigarette burns?"



"What would you do if you swore to keep a secret and it was driving you crazy?"

Indian Cinema

Will Mumtaz storm the screen

By Firoze Rangoonwala
Special correspondent

ALL eyes are on Pahlaj Nihalani's *Aandhiyan*, and its central attraction is Mumtaz, who is making a comeback after 10 years. Everyone is curious about how she looks, how she acts, her role and her songs and dances. But the million dollar question is: will she be accepted by the audience and regain her popularity?

Such questions have become a topic of discussion at cocktail parties by industry folk and film fans. Mumtaz, or Mumu as she was nicknamed, has tried to break the image barrier created by the unwritten taboos of age, appearance and acceptance of past careers by the cine-goers. When she left films, Mumtaz was a singing-dancing doll, showing flashes of acting when the role demanded. Her beauty and sex appeal were the main assets which lingered in the public mind. But today it's a different scenario.

Producer Pahlaj and director David Dhawan have tried to keep the film under wraps, so that no adverse opinion starts floating. They held a preview of half a dozen songs, followed by a party. Despite the secrecy, some things have leaked out. One only has to read between the lines and see through the smoke screen created by public relations men. Mumtaz uses heavy make-up



Mumtaz in *Aandhiyan*. Her comeback venture but will she regain her popularity?

painstakingly photographed to look good. Performance wise, she has acted as she used to before. Nothing more or less.

In most scenes she appears elderly and serious, as a crusading columnist and mother of Prasenjit as well as would-be ma-

in-law of charming young newcomer Madhushree. She plays the estranged wife of Shatrughan Sinha, who did not tell her of his

political connections and goes on to become the chief minister, with his father's help. Her whole emotional life revolves around the son and she has kept papa and grandpa hidden from him. But when he comes to know the truth, he torments the two men socially, so that his mother can get back her rightful place.

For these sequences, Mumtaz wears make-up to look matronly; the rimmed glasses give her the journalistic touch. (Do all columnists look like librarians?) This provides a good camouflage for hiding any unphotogenic facial flaws, except those carefully added by make-up. The real test comes in the flashbacks, when she remembers how she met Shatrughan in love, sang and danced in the breeze and was eventually cheated; her marriage is kept unofficial for political reasons.

It's at this point that the answer becomes dicey: whether cinegoers will accept Mumtaz as a young damsel-in-distress give a unanimous verdict: aged. She sings *Yeh wadda kar lein*, dancing to the tune of Shatrughan. No amount of scenic charm, unusual locations or clever editing in close-ups can cover up the fact that Mumtaz simply does not belong to that age. Why could she not play a mature character throughout the film?

In comparison, vivacious new talent Madhushree is bound to succeed. She makes the romantic lead opposite Prasenjit, another star jumping from Bengal to Bombay. Mumtaz is tolerable in the song *Duniya mein tera bina koi nahin mera*, because she sings it with her son. For most part, she has to play the emotionally wounded woman, facing conflicts. They become more painful when the son stays away from her, for her own good.

So far as historians are concerned, everyone knows that Mumtaz had never been any great shakes at acting. She had developed a limited style and range, within which she did some good roles. But to expect a talent-hurst from her is wishful thinking. Even highly gifted serious actresses like Waheeda Rahman, Sharmila Tagore, Rehana Sultan or Shabana could not make the same impact, when they left their heroine days behind and came back as elderly women.

If *Aandhiyan* (storms) has merely banked on the return of Mumtaz as its main draw, then it has put its ship aloft in stormy waters.

Super-star directors vogue

ANOTHER film that has aroused quite a bit of interest and curiosity in the industry is *Ghayal*, because of a new director Rajkumar Santosh, who has become the talk of the town. Is Bollywood entering era of director super-stars?

The young man's work of creating a gripping suspenseful narrative with technical aid has impressed many people. The first to trust him was Dharmendra, who is the disguised producer of the film, with son Sunny playing a boxer. When trade previews were held, other stars were also charmed. Dimple was so awed that she soon signed him as director of her own production, with herself and Sunny in the lead.

Content-wise, the film jointly written by the director does not seem to offer anything extraordinary. It is the treatment that

makes it crisp. The hero aspires to become a boxing champion at the Olympics. He found his love in a pretty journalist. His elder brother and wife help him in every way, while prospering in business management.

The web of conflicts is woven after the elder brother disappears and is feared dead. Some powerful men in politics and other social strata seem to have a hand in the kidnapping. The police do their job but under restraints. The hero's search leads him in jail accused of killing his own brother. He is transformed. He reads the lonely road of revenge and finds his own justice.

We hope *Ghayal* won't turn into a show of all techniques but no story with a villain as stereotyped as Amrish Puri and the worst fear of all ideas and techniques lifted from Hollywood films.



Om Puri in a scene from Rajkumar Santosh's *Ghayal*.

Ensor retro focus on skeletons, masks

By Marilyn August

PARIS. (AP): James Ensor, a Belgian expressionist with an affinity for skeletons and a style that helped pave the way for surrealism, is enjoying new popularity in a major retrospective of his paintings.

Showing at the Petit Palais through July 22 are more than 200 works tracing the evolution of a multi-faceted career that spanned six decades and that had been largely ignored in France, where only two Ensor paintings are displayed in major museums.

According to Lydia M.A. Schoonbaert, head curator at the Royal Beaux Art Museum in Antwerp, Belgium, the exhibition may also be one of the last

tributes of its kind because of the fragility of Ensor's canvases.

Like many contemporaries in France who came of age in the second half of the 19th century, Ensor adopted impressionist teachings to depict his subjects in a haze of colour spread thickly across the canvas.

But if Monet and Renoir excelled with outdoor scenes, Ensor was an astute observer of interiors — stifling, bourgeois drawing rooms and bedrooms with heavy, dark furniture and thick drapery.

He also was fascinated with the macabre workings of the human imagination and the influence of death. Many paintings reveal his obsession with scatological themes and torture.

Masks and skeletons are Ensor's most widely used symbols. When combined with his penchant for bright, bold colours, the effect is carnival-like.

In the 1891 work *Squelettes se Disputant un Pendu*, (Skeletons Arguing Over a Hanged Man) two skeletons in fancy garb totter parasols over a hanged corpse, dangling above them while a host of distorted witch-like figures look on.

In *Les Fumeurs Drolatiques* (The Hilarious Smokers), Ensor portrays his friend Auguste Boogaerts smoking a cigarette, smiling at the spectator outside the painting while a butler serves up a cigar-smoking skull on a

plate. *Squelette Peintre* (Skeleton Painter), is a satirical tradition of a common 19th century theme — the artist in his studio. The artist here is working in a studio cluttered with half-finished compositions and wide-eyed skulls. The artist himself has only a skull for a head and paints with a worn-out brush on an easel topped by another skull. At his feet lies yet another one, gripping a feather duster between its teeth.

Also on show are numerous drawings and preparatory sketches for "The Entry of Christ into Brussels," (1888), Ensor's most famous masterpiece, not on show because it is considered too fragile to travel from its home at the John Paul Getty Museum in

Malibu, California.

Ensor was born in Ostende, Belgium, in 1860, the son of a British-born shopkeeper who dealt in masks, shells and assorted exotic objects that would find their way into his work.

He studied painting at the Academie Des Beaux Arts in Brussels, but chose to return to Ostende, where he lived until his death in 1949. Ensor lived a strange, reclusive existence, and never married the servant woman with whom he lived for many years.

Though his early work is reminiscent of the *Joy de Vivre* of the Impressionists, a climate of anxiety and oppression soon settles in, haunting even the simplest of his still lifes.



Dev Anand's ambition is to make a film "that will create a stir in the whole world".

'Bury the past; look ahead'

Your "Awwal Number" has just been released but was not received well. What do you say?

"It's too early to say. Some films take a slow start, then run on in the interior circuits. Anyway, I don't care much for how much money each film makes. I care for inner satisfaction. That keeps me going."

Now you are on to...? "Sau Karoo". A very topical subject. A leading champion gets killed. What's the cause? Politics, terrorism, corruption? Of course, there is entertainment, too.

Again some new faces? Yes, forget Ektaa, see Raman and Fatima. That's my philosophy. Bury the past, look ahead. Why are you doing outside films, like "Aman Ke Farishte"?

Only one at a time. I give myself wider opportunity as an actor.

What is your ambition? To make a film that will create a stir in the whole world. Then I would be at peace, gathering reactions and rewards.

Govinda's dress sense must be very strong, even if his film and role sense is not. Recently he was seen on the sets, playing a poor villager who mostly wears kurta, dhoti or lungi. Yet, he insisted on getting his costumes from the posh and pricey point called "life style".

Ektaa, the hack-number of "Awwal Number" has started quarrelling with the costume makers and tailors of her film units for giving her non-fitting, unstylish dresses. Does she have the sense for style? Or has she got her own costume designer in mind, like Sonam had Sabiah?

Salman Khan is already being apologetic for his possibly limited talents. He reports that he gave his best to "Maine Pyar Kiya". Now he does not know what more he can offer. The fact is that young people have adored him so much that now they will expect much more from him and something different. That gives him nightmares. Hence all the modesty. If he fails later, he can always turn round and say: "I told you so".

A girl to be pitied is Ayesha Jhulka. The newcomer was given a good break by N. Chandra in his own film. Both were on sweet

terms, too. But then she broke the rules and signed outside films of the wrong kind. So Chandra promptly chucked her out. Since she lost a big film, others also got shaky. So now she is neither here nor there.

Poor Suresh Oberoi gets a chance to work with top heroines only in woman-oriented dacoit dramas and the like. He made the most of it with Dimple in romantic scenes and songs of "Khaali Ganga". But finally he had to lead her, not to the altar, but to the gallows. So again he was left back as non-hero. As per industry rules, only the one who gets the girl can be treated as a hero.



Rakha: commuting

Aampan Kher: "Now I want to do just the reverse of what Naseruddin is doing. I want to do off-beat roles he once did. And he wants to do the bad stuff I was doing. Naser is doing absurd things. Imagine wearing a woman's bathing costume."

Rakha: "Now every month I will be staying 20 days in Bombay and 10 days in Delhi. But of course, Mukesh will come to Bombay during the 20 days."

Varsha: "Mithun is a gem of a person who is instrumental in my choice of films. He had seen my Marathi film. He said we must work together. And within 5 days I got the offer of Indo-Soviet 'Shikari'."

Sahana: "Everything here belongs to my dad. I don't even own a pillow. So I want to make it big. I want lots of money."

Freedom wave causes chaos in industry

By Vernon Scott

HOLLYWOOD, (UPI): Soviet actress Natalia Andreichenko says Russia's film industry has been shaken by its newly acquired freedoms, and isn't quite sure how to handle them.

Andreichenko, one of the Soviet Union's leading actresses, has been in Hollywood with her husband actor Maximilian Schell, since January. But she still keeps a home in Moscow.

Her first great film was *Siberiade* for director Andre Konchalovsky, which won the special jury prize at the Cannes film festival in 1979. She starred in the Soviet version of *Mary Poppins* and her 1985 movie, *Warfare Romance*, won an Oscar nomination for best foreign language film.

In the course of starring in 25 movies, she has twice won the award for most popular actress in the USSR.

Perestroika and Glasnost, she says, have shaken the Soviet film industry with a wave of freedom of expression and subject matter.

The film community, she said, doesn't know how to handle it. "It is chaos," she said. "There is so much freedom that they do not know which way to turn."

"So many changes have come in our country so quickly. It's unbelievable."

"I left Moscow last January and since then I've had many Russian directors and writers ask me to come back to work in many projects. They tell me everything is possible. They can make films about drugs and prostitution in Russia — stories unsympathetic to the communists."

"It's exciting. Also confusing. For instance we have about 50 good French movie cameras in

the country, but they are already being used by filmmakers and nobody knows how to get others.

"Filmmakers know about making commercial movies. The state financed films and it was not necessary to make a profit."

"The stories were about Lenin and Stalin, the war and how great we are and how much we suffered. If people liked the film or not was unimportant."

"Now we have more cinemas opening, but nobody in the entire Soviet Union knows or understands anything about distribution. What does distribution mean? Who knows what Soviet audiences want to see?"

"We know they love American films, but Russians don't believe in Cinderella or fairy tales. Our history has been so tragic that we don't believe in happy endings. In this century alone more than 80 million Russians were killed. Sixty-four million were murdered by Stalin and 20 million in the Second World War."

"Russians are very deep people. They think they are more like Americans than Europeans. But differences are big, too. Russians, to be good people must be moral, married once and very proper or they will not be respected. Because we live so close together in big cities it is important for us to confirm."

"We like to suffer. We like tragedy because we have traditionally lived with tyrants and now there are none."

"For centuries they were dominated by barbarians. Later they looked to their religion, then the Czars, then the revolution and Stalin and the Communist rulers who followed him. Now we have nothing and no one to cling to. Millions of Russians are frightened and lost."

The government frowned on her marriage to Schell more than three years ago, but now the heat is off.

Foreigners — including Schell — have trouble understanding the Byzantine and sometimes bizarre world of Soviet filmmaking, she said in offering up an example:

"When we were making *Peter The Great*, we left our location in Uzbekistan, an agricultural area, for a small town north of Moscow."

"The director asked the Italian wig maker to put hundreds of wigs for the actors on the plane. Instead he put them aboard two Soviet trucks for the two-day journey."

"But they didn't show up. So production stopped for three weeks while we waited for the wigs. Helicopters were sent to look for the trucks. Search parties were organized."

"You know what happened? We are so poor in the Soviet Union we had no fruit. The drivers filled the trucks with melons and other fruits and sold them privately. They got fantastically rich. Neither the trucks or the drivers were ever seen again."

"Such things do not happen in prosperous, non-communist countries."

"Those things will change even as it has changed for Russians to marry foreigners like I have done."

"But I would never abandon my homeland. I have my apartment in Moscow and I will keep it."

"I love Russia and I love the Russian people. My motherland is more dear to me than anything. Even if I stay here to make movies, I will always return to my wonderful country."

Charlton Heston

'Thou shalt not show classic films on TV'

By Vernon Scott

HOLLYWOOD, (UPI): If Charlton Heston were to write his own Ten Commandments, the first would be "Thou shalt not show classic films on TV."

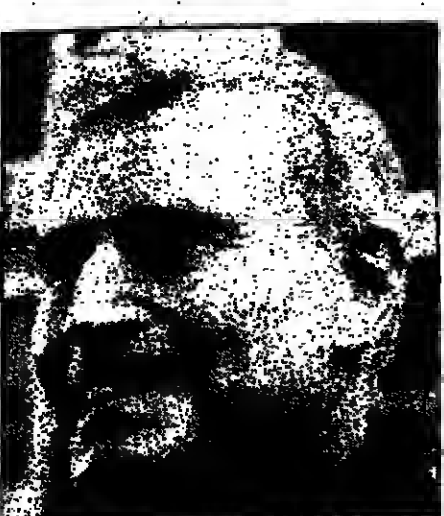
Heston, following a victorious couple of sets of tennis on his own court the other morning, took time out to comment on the re-release to theatres of Cecil B. DeMille's biblical movie landmark *The Ten Commandments*.

The tall, imposing actor said the principal element in the new prints of the three-hour, 39-minute cavalcade of the life of Moses is in the soundtrack.

"What they've done is increase the number of tracks from one to 12, which truly enhances the picture," he said.

"Nothing else has been changed. No scenes were eliminated or added. It's the full cut of the original, unlike some cut versions which have been seen on the tube. Also there is the joy of not seeing commercial interruptions for toothpaste and fast-food chains."

For the past 30 years or so *The Ten Commandments* has been seen only on television. I never look at it, but when I appear on TV interviews they intersperse several clips to match what I'm talking about on the air.



Charlton Heston: keeping alive his image seen as teeny little dots fading into a soft focus. It's never very impressive.

"As with *Lawrence of Arabia* and *Gone with the Wind*, *The Ten Commandments* was made to be seen on the big screen.

"To put them on the little box with poor colour, poor sound, poor definition is to diminish them."

"I saw the refurbished film with interest at the Cinerama Dome — one of the biggest theatres around — to see the reactions of two generations of filmgoers who think they've seen the picture, but haven't."

"It held up marvelously well. I must say. All the effects looked better, the performances, the whole scope of the film opens out from its cramped dimensions on television."

"The picture is still overpowering, but some of the performances are not overwhelming. There are scenes I (as Moses) could do better now. However, Yul (Brynner) was flawless as Pharaoh. It's an extraordinary performance."

Heston had praise for most of the others in the cast, which included Edward G. Robinson, Anne Baxter, Yvonne De Carlo, Cedric Hardwicke, H.B. Warner, Matha Scott and Henry Wilcoxon.

"I was very glad I went back to see the film," he said. "I was gratified at the audience's response."

Although Heston had attained stardom in other movies, including the Oscar-winning *The Greatest Show on Earth*, he credits *The Ten Commandments* for establishing him as an actor who would play more biblical and historic roles than any other of his generation.

"Unquestionably, the film was enormously significant in shaping my career," he said. "It led me to so many biographical roles."

"I've often said a successful actor needs marvelous parts, energy, health and luck. And I've had all of those. You have to have stamina. The luck in my case has been the sequence of extraordinarily good parts."

Playing Moses preceded *Ben Hur*, *El Cid* and many others.

Because the picture is seen so often on television — more even — than *Ben Hur* — it keeps alive my image as a formidable authority figure on the screen.

"I can't really play Jack Lemmon schlemiels or Jack Nicholson wise guys. We all are, to a certain extent, shaped by successful roles that audiences remember."

"I think I have a bit wider range than most because I've played a renaissance prince, pirates, presidents, a cardinal among others, 12 different nationalities in God knows how many different centuries. That's given me some elbow room."

The Ten Commandments will be shown throughout the rest of the year in selected theatres for limited runs in various cities.

"Most people who see it will have seen the picture at least once, not in a theatre then on television," he said.

"Frequently people tell me they've seen the picture only on TV or they've taped it for special occasions. I reply, 'then you haven't really seen the movie.'"

"Personally, I think re-releasing classic films like this one, *Lawrence of Arabia* and *Tom Jones* is important because they are pictures of a kind that can no longer be made."

"The cost of such films is prohibitive. Someone ran a budget on what it would take to make *Ben Hur* today. The total would be \$122.7 million."

JUNIOR TIMES

Dear Junior readers,

In order to enhance children's talents, the National Child Culture Centre annually organises a national contest for talented children. The contest is held to give children the opportunity to express themselves through various hobbies like drawing and story writing.

This year, the National Child Culture Centre holds its fourth Talented Child Contest after it witnessed a great response during the past three contests held in 1985, 1986 and 1987.

Conditions to participate in the contest:

1. Participants must be Arabs.
2. The participant should not be over 15-years-old.
3. Art works should include the following information:
 - The full name of the contestant.
 - The full address.
 - Birth date.
 - Nationality.
 - Sex (Male / Female).
 - The title of the drawing, or story entering the contest.
4. Not more than two works in each field, are allowed to enter the contest per participant.
5. All works must be sent before August 15, 1990 to the following address:

The Talented Children Contest
National Child Culture Centre
Al Foonon City — Al Haram
Egypt
Tel: 536242

Rules:

- The Drawing:**
1. Should deal with any subject, but preferably those related to the child's environment, expressing future outlooks or preserving environmental safety.
 2. Drawings should be not smaller than a page of a regular drawing book.
 3. Any drawing tool except pencils may used.

The Story:
All stories and essays must be written in classical Arabic.

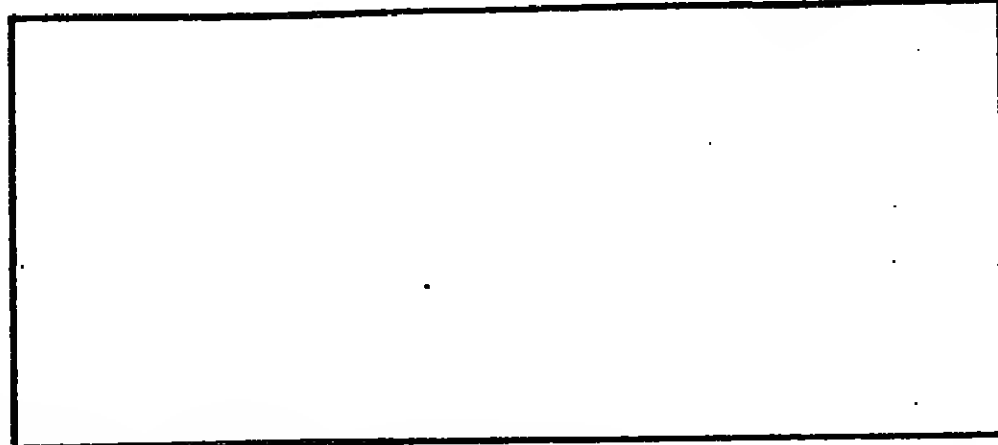
Prizes:

1. The first 25 winners in both drawing and writing will be awarded gold medals.
 2. The next fifty winners obtain silver medals.
 3. 200 runners-up will be awarded certificates.
 4. An annual exhibit is held for distinguished drawings.
 5. Winning works will be nominated by referee committees.
 6. Winning works will be published in a special binder.
- Good Luck.

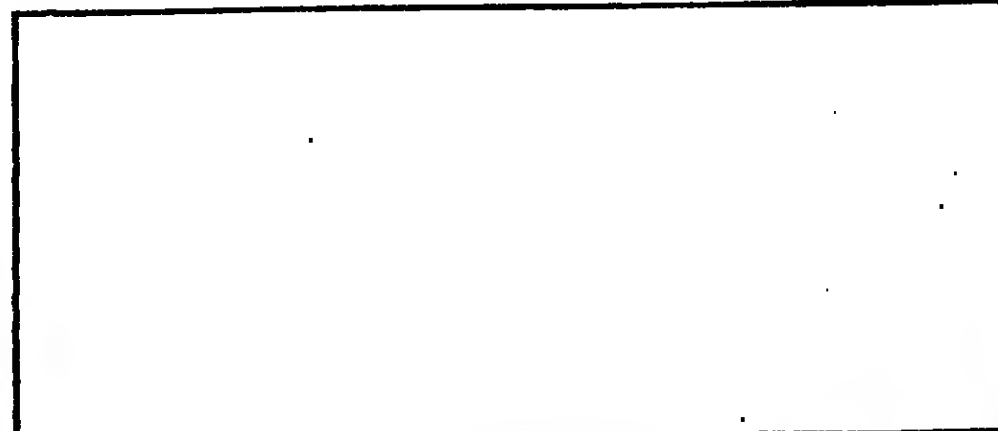
Maal.

Read the sentences. In each box draw what you think the sentences are talking about.

The boy wants to go to the moon.
He is going to fly there in one of these things.



This is the space suit he wants to wear.



Wordsearch

SHAKESPEARE'S CHARACTERS

BOTTOM

CAPHIS

CASCA

CRESSIDA

DEMETRIUS

EGEUS

HAMLET

HELENA

HERMIA

KING LEAR

LAFEU

MACBETH

NESTOR

OBERON

OPHELIA

OTHELLO

PUCK

SNUG

THESEUS

TIMON

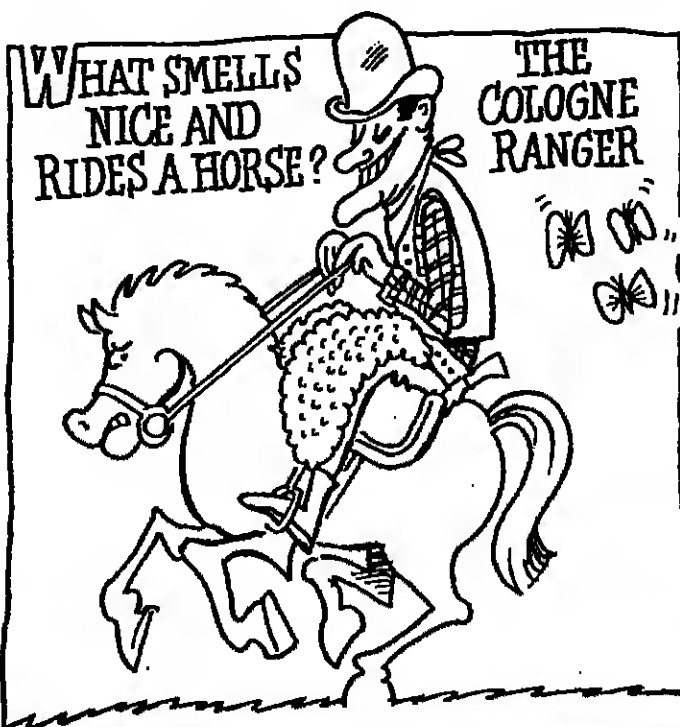
TITANIA

TITUS

TROILUS

VARRO

S U I R T E M E D T G K V
U H R O T S E N R D I A S
E E D A F H T O T N R F S
S R G V I I I G R C I Y
E M U H T L M L O O H G A
H I N U U O E H T P J A I
T A S S N A F H A D G N N
E C L U R O E C P M J E A
B S A F E L R U H O L L T
C A F C L G C E D G J E I
A C E O K K E D B H F H T
M H U G V M O T T O B F S
A D C A D I S S E R C V B



Just for laughs!

'Hello, Ginger!' her brother called cheerily to his sister.
'Don't call me Ginger!' she snapped furiously. 'My hair is the colour of gold.'
'Yeah,' he replied with a jeer, 'twenty-two carrots!'

'How are you getting on with your football, Peter?'
'Well, Dad, pretty good. The sports master said I was one of the team's greatest drawbacks!'

Why is the letter A like a flower?
'Cos the B comes after it.'

Why did the cockerel cross the road?
For his own fowl purposes.

What nut has no shell?
A doughnut.

Word pairs

Draw up the ten pictures on the right to give a hidden word. For example, butter mixed with fly (below) gives cometary.



WHAT'S GREEN WITH RED SPOTS?

A GREENFLY WITH MEASLES!



Firsts and lasts

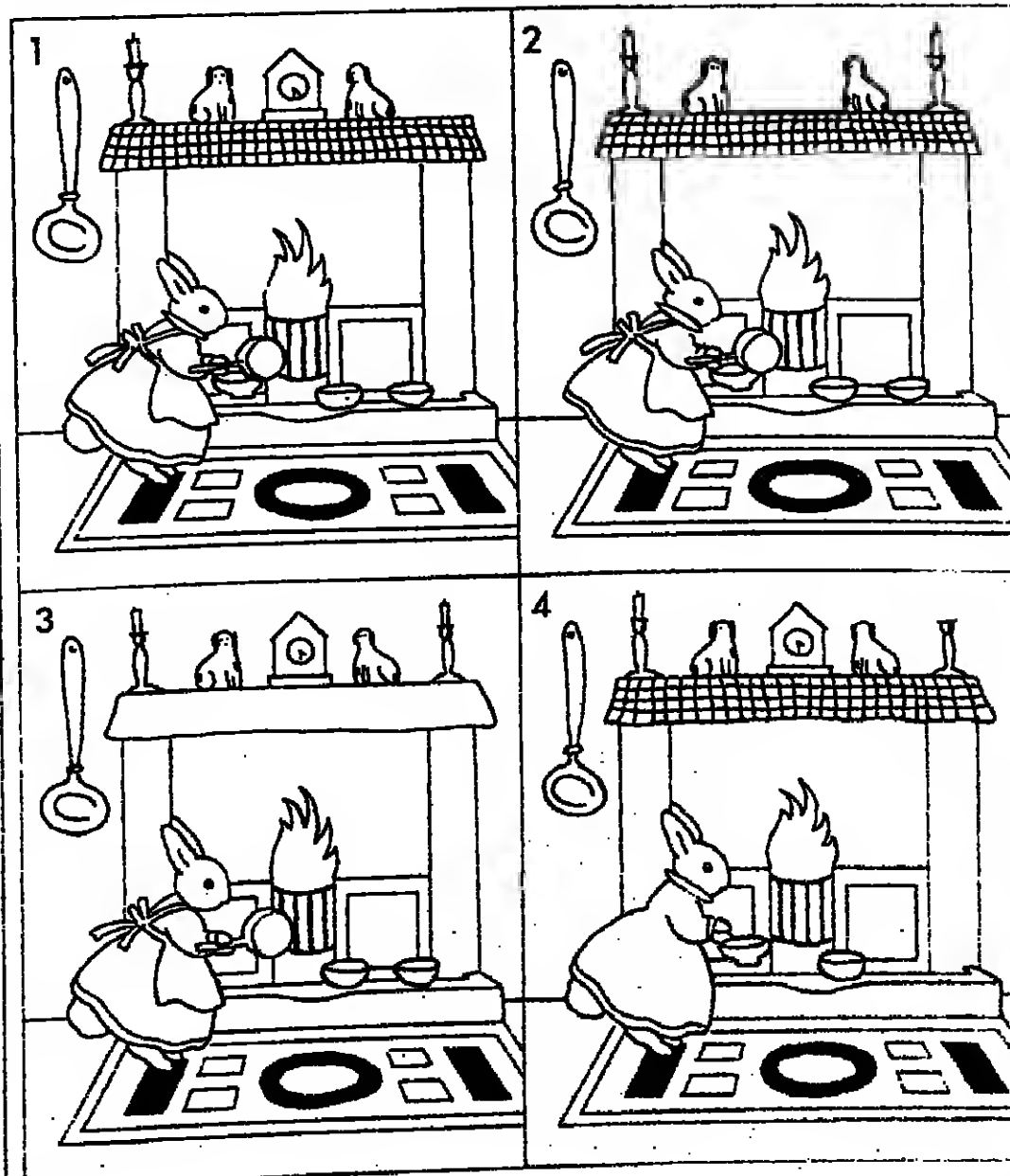
The first thing many South American cowboys, or gauchos as they are called, do before setting out for a day's hard riding, is to put a raw steak under their saddle. The constant bumping up and down throughout the day makes the steak nice and tender by the time they return at night to cook it.

Charles Macintosh, a Scottish chemist, invented the cloth with which the first 'mackintosh' was made. They were not well received at first because they are said to have smelt.

The first biscuits had to be cooked twice to prevent them from going stale. The word 'biscuit' comes from the two French words 'bis' (twice) and 'cuit' (cooked).

What's missing?

There is something missing in each of these four pictures. In the first picture, one thing is missing; in the second, two things are missing; in the third, three things are missing; and in the fourth, four things are missing. What are they?



By the pond



1. The children went to the pond for a picnic. They counted 7 turtles, 6 frogs and 3 snails. How many animals were there in all? — — —
2. They found an ant hill with 99 ants in it. 33 ants were going away from the hill. How many stayed on the hill? — — —
3. The children left home at 1 pm. They stayed at the pond until 4 pm. How long were they at the pond? — — —
4. The children caught little fish to sell for 10c each. They caught 7 fish. How much money will they collect if they sell all 7? — — —
5. On the way home the children counted 3 bird's nests. Each nest had 5 eggs in it. How many eggs were there? — — —
6. There were 12 children at the picnic. 9 of them were girls. How many were boys? — — —
7. The children counted 3 kittens, 2 puppies and 5 blue birds on the way home. How many did they count in all? — — —

Amazing facts

A single drop of water contains one hundred billion atoms.

'I cry that I sin' is an anagram of 'Christianity.'

Ainu women of Japan always cover their mouth with one hand when speaking to a man.

Birthday coupon

Is your birthday to come soon?
Are you a regular reader of the Junior Times?
Well, now is the chance to let your friends know that it is your birthday!
Or maybe you would like to surprise your best friend, brother or sister by putting their picture in for them.
The details we need are:

Name:

Date of birth:

School:

Telephone: (confidential)

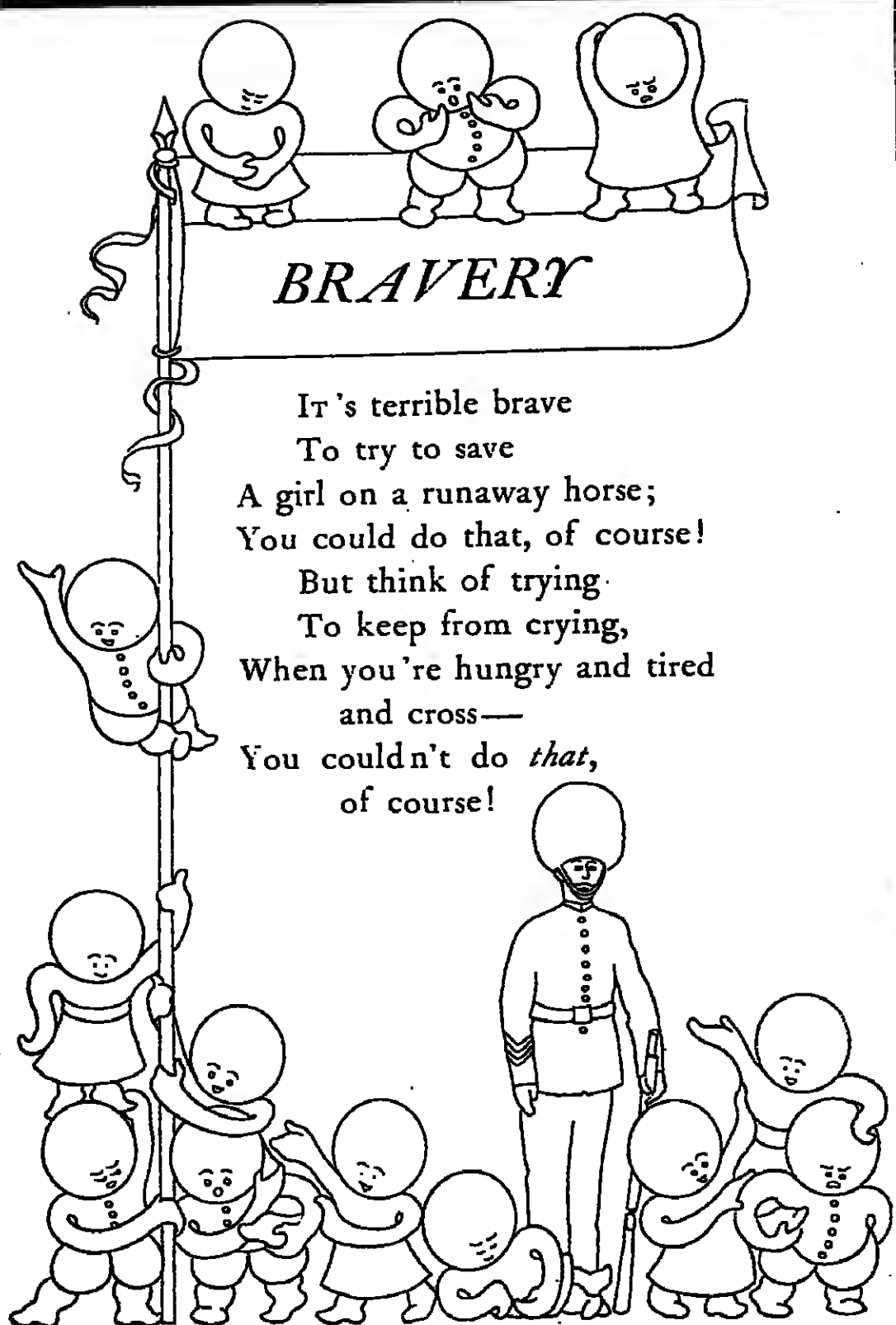
Your favourite most recent picture (4x6)

Send to:
ARAB TIMES

Junior Times
P.O. Box 2270
13023, Safat,
Kuwait

To avoid delayed greetings please send within a week before the special date

The Goops again



It's terrible brave
To try to save
A girl on a runaway horse;
You could do that, of course!
But think of trying
To keep from crying,
When you're hungry and tired
and cross —
You couldn't do that,
of course!

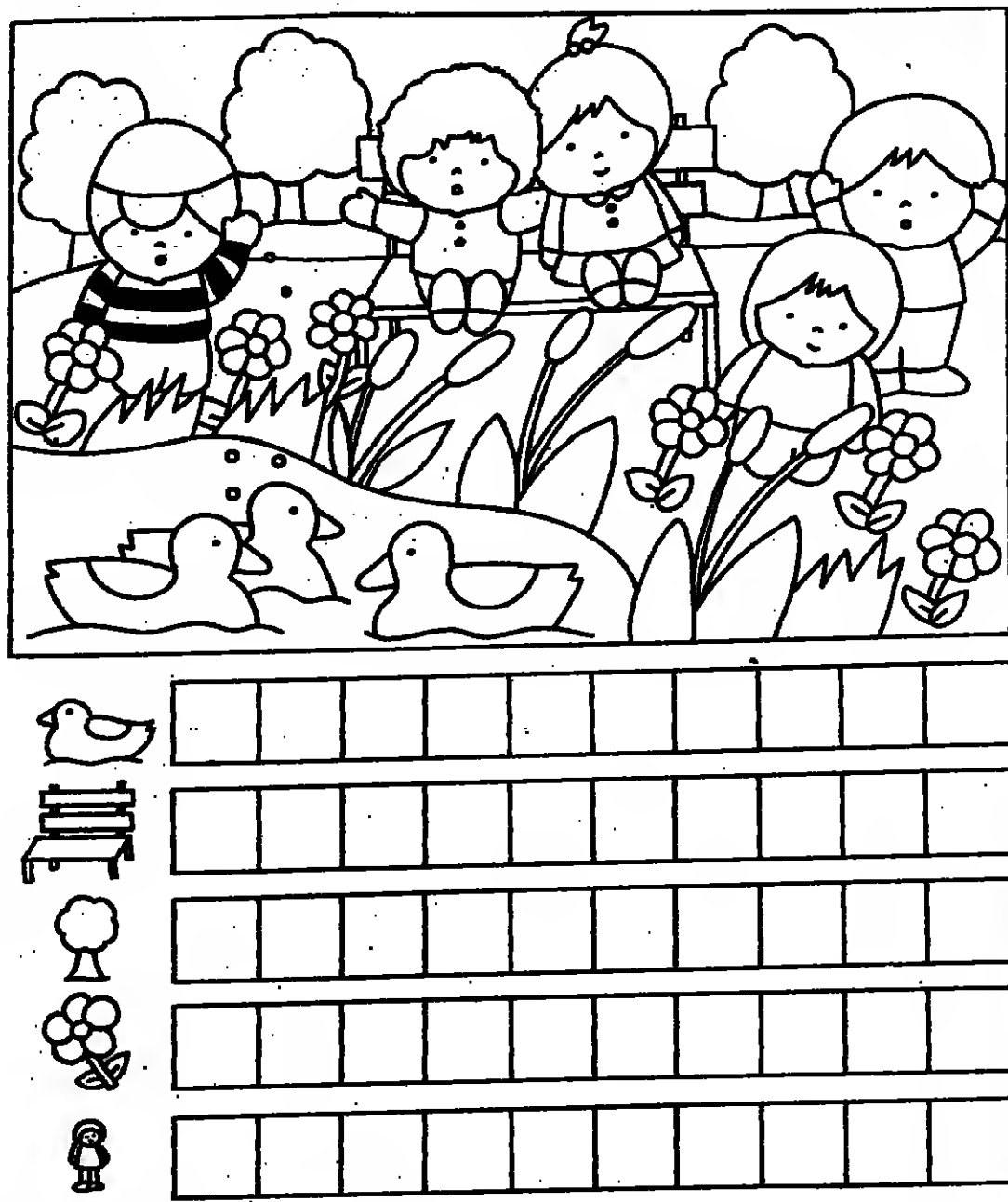
JANUARY 1990

Spot the differences between these two pictures



In the park

How many ducks, seats, flowers, trees and children can you find?
Colour the right number of boxes for each one.



Happy birthday



Vineeta Nayani turns 9 on June 1



Anjali Oberoi turned 11 on May 27.



Marion Pereira turns 2 on June 2



Sonia Parekh on June 3



Manal Ishraq turns 16 on May 31.



Sayed Ahmed turned 10 on May 26.

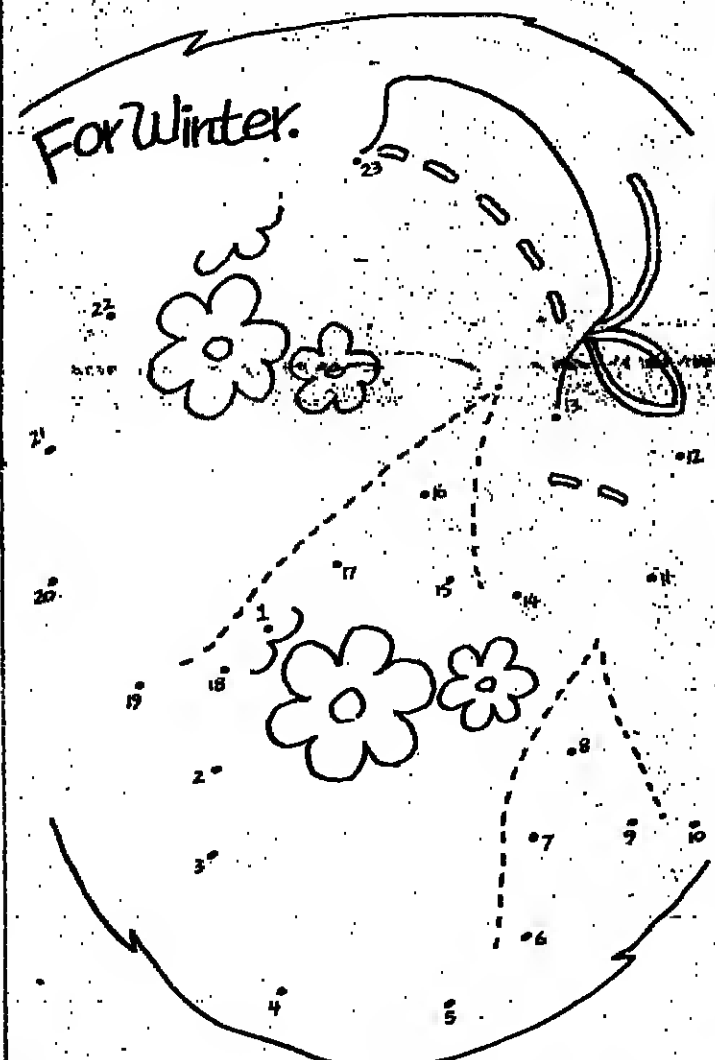


Asem Sarfraz turned 17 on May 29.



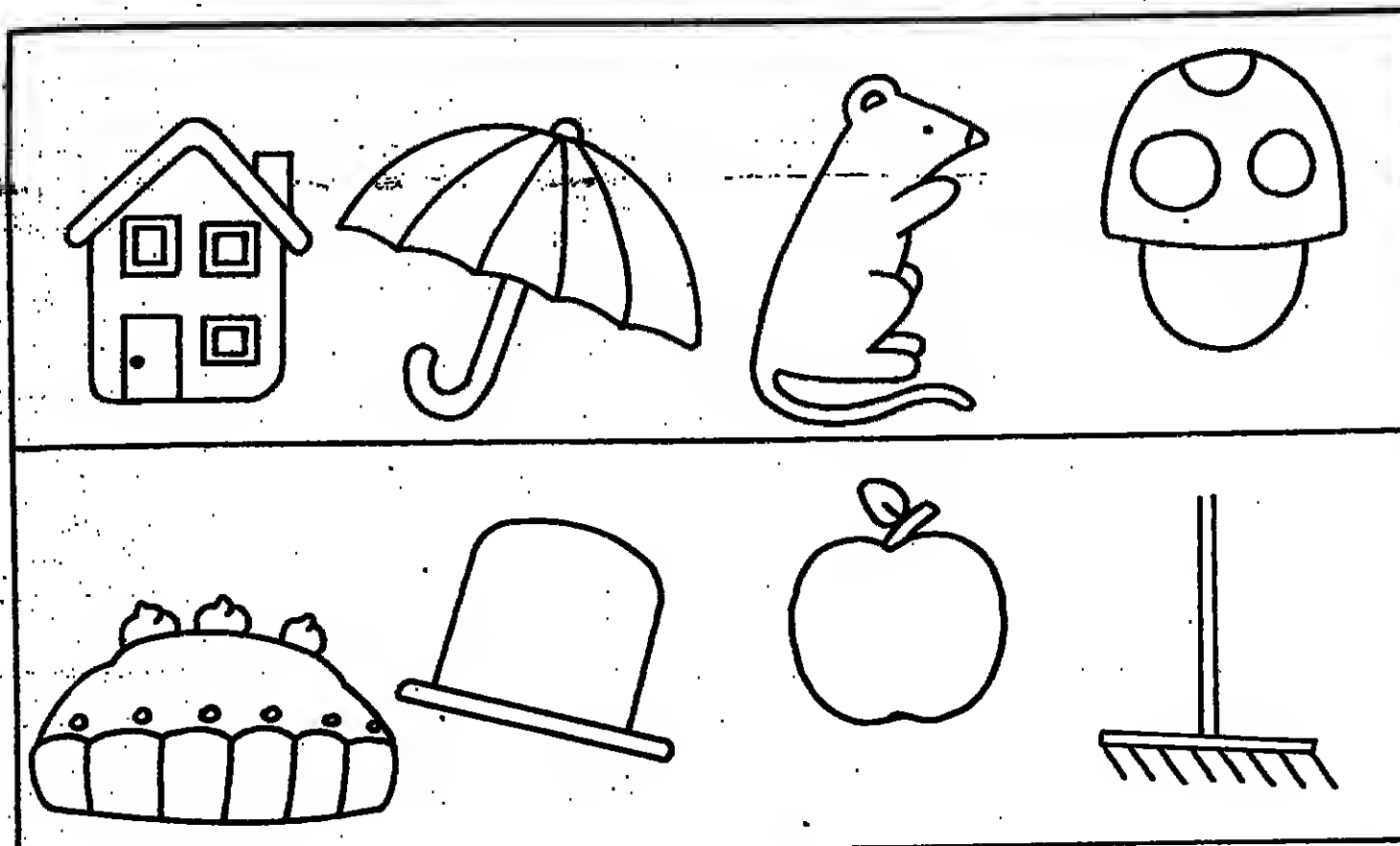
Nita Bhatkar turned 14 on May 22.

Join the dots



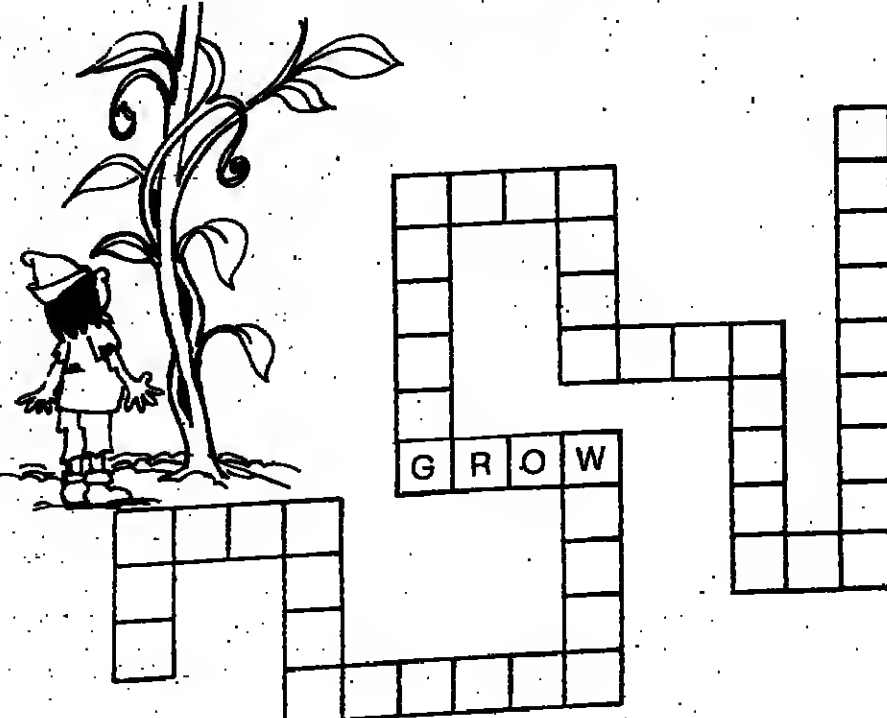
Rhymes

Find the words in each line that sound the same.



It Will Grow On You

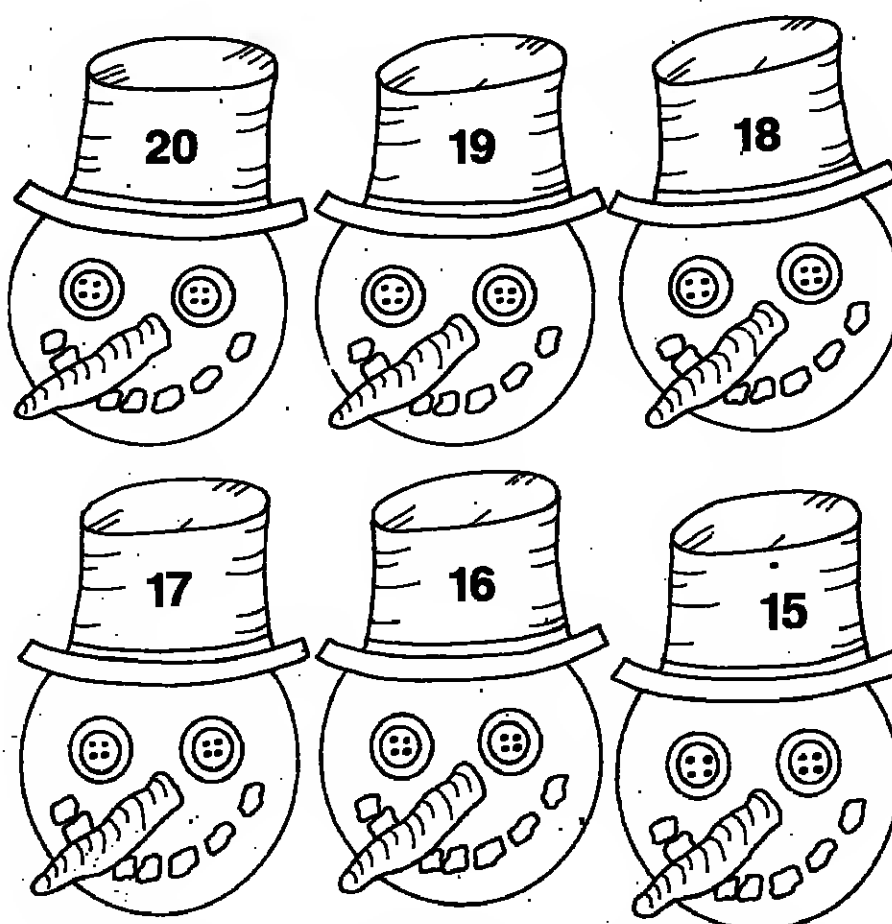
Directions: Place the words from this list in the boxes to form a continuous path. Place one letter in each box. Corner letters are shared. Use each word only once. One word has been done for you. (GROW)



Word List:

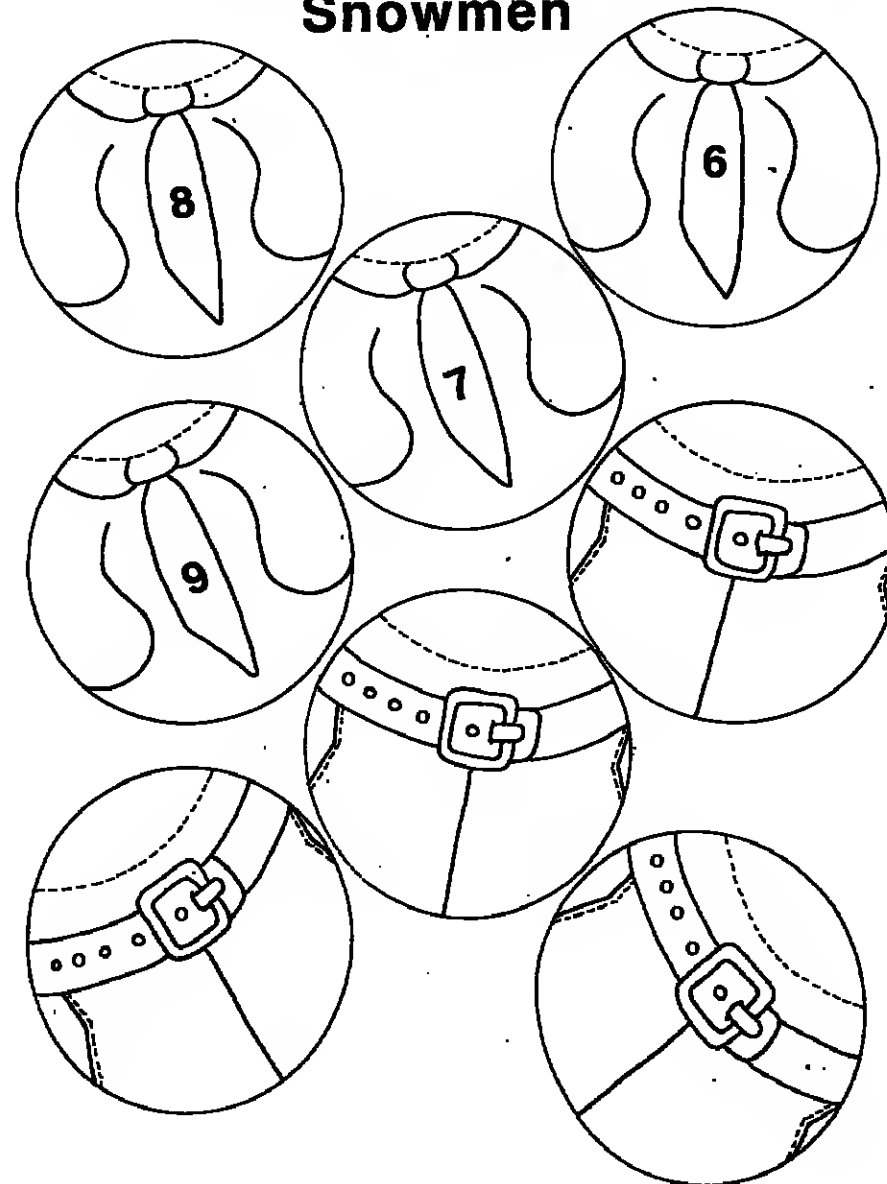
- seed
- hoe
- Spring
- fertilize
- tree
- flower
- water
- grow
- sun
- dirt
- soil
- leaf
- earth

Snowmen



Each snowman has three parts . . . a head, a tummy, and pants. Choose any three parts to build your snowman. Then subtract the snowman's tie number from his hat number. Write your answer on his pants. Make lots of snowmen!

Snowmen



EVENTS

VIDEO CORNER

How to lose a million and get it back

By Shaun Seeki

NOT A Penny More, Not A Penny Less, is a new mini-series based on a best-selling book written by Jeffrey Archer. Edward Asner plays the American financier, Harvey Metcalfe, who has swindled his way to amassing a fortune. Setting up a big scam he sends young Harvard graduate David Kesler (Nicolas Colicos) to London, apparently to manage the development side of Spectra Oil. The gullible Kesler contacts his old college friend Stephen Bradley (Ed Begley Jr), who is now a mathematics professor at Oxford, and persuades him to buy a large block of Spectra shares. He next convinces Jean, Pierre Lamanns (Francois Gendron), the French proprietor of an art gallery in London, to invest all his savings. Continuing on his way he meets James Bradley (Brian Protheroe) an English aristocrat who gambles his family's heritage on making a fortune. Finally, he lets a successful Harley Street doctor into the "secret," Robin Oakley (Nicolas Jones), who wants to secure his sons' future.

When Metcalfe pulls the plug, the four investors are left financially ruined, and Kesler flees to the States, but only after Bradley has forced him to confess to the scam and to Metcalfe's involvement. The victims then decide to concoct a series of outrageous "stings" in order to recuperate their money, making sure they'll get *Not A Penny More, Not A Penny Less*.

The gambits include selling a fake oil masterpiece to art lover Asner, making him pay through the nose for a fake operation and selling him a phoney Oxford degree.

The book was inspired by Jeffrey Archer's own bitter experience of losing a million dollars in a bad investment. "The first half of the book is pretty near how I got conned out of my money, the second half is how I would have loved to have got it back," Archer comments.

The Kissing Place is a good suspense thriller, starring 11-year-old Nataniel Moreau as Tommy Tulane, a young boy who is having terrible dreams. He lives

and is emotionally unstable in the Midwest. Tommy, although he's seen his birth certificate, isn't sure that he's really Tommy Tulane. The first major break comes when his behaviour at school worries teacher Edelson (Victoria Snow), but it takes awhile. Poking around, over-hearing conversations, Tommy begins to realise that he's not who he's supposed to be.

Buried Alive stars Tim Matheson and Jennifer Jason Leigh in an exciting revenge thriller. Leigh plays a faithless wife who is persuaded by her lover to poison her husband in a bizarre way, using an extract from a tropical fish. But the dose she administers is not enough and he doesn't quite die. He discovers the truth after escaping from the grave and exacts a ruthless revenge on the unlucky couple.

Caroline is a superior who-dun-it starring Stephanie Zimbalist. Did Caroline die fifteen years ago in a plane crash? Is it her who has returned? Does her father believe her? Plenty to keep you guessing until the final scenes.

Fall From Grace tells a story of Jim and Tammy Bakker, a behind the scenes look at a scandal that was the talk of America. How their multi-million dollar world collapsed when his indiscretion was revealed.

For family viewing the latest release from Walt Disney is *Cheetah*. It's always reassuring to know that among all the shooting and killings we can always rely on Disney to supply the soft fluffy animals, wholesome children and happy-ever-after endings. Californian teenagers Todd and Susan go out to Kenya where their parents are working for the summer. There they meet up with a young Masai boy Morogo who takes them on lots of adventures in the bush. On one outing they come across an orphaned cheetah cub which they take home to rear. But when they have to return to school at the end of summer they are faced with the problem of returning the tame Duma to the wild.

The above films are by courtesy of The Video Club, Salmiya, Tel. 5724372; Fintas Towers; Safeway Complex, Farwaniya; Salsia Complex, Kuwait City.

Edward Asner plays Harvey Metcalfe in *Not A Penny More, Not A Penny Less*.

Primary grade students.



Grade 3 dancer



Grade 1 students.



Pre-primary dancers.

A step ahead

THE overseas examiner from the Royal Academy of Dancing, London, was recently in Kuwait to examine a number of students of the Steps Ballet School, Kuwait.

The examiner is currently on a Gulf tour, visiting all Royal Academy of Dance schools.

Children from Grade Primary (five years old) to Grade Four (12 years old) were examined.

The Steps Ballet School, Kuwait English School, students received a 100 per cent pass rate in all grades. Every child who took the exam passed. A number of children passed with highly commended passes, and pass plus.

Marilyn Hayat of the Steps Ballet School says that such examinations "are necessary to show the Royal Academy of Dancing that our standard of teaching is high and maintained."

On behalf of the school, she also congratulated all students who took the Royal Academy external exams in May this year.

The registration for the September term is open now at Kuwait English School for girls only, aged 4 and above. Tel: 5655216/8, ext. 55 (afternoons only).

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

9.00 Holy Quran
9.15 Kaola: cartoons
9.45 Good Morning: magazine show
10.00 Magazine d'Actualite (repeat)
10.15 Wajhat Nazar: Arabic serial
11.00 Good Morning:
11.15 Open University
12.15 Huwar Wa Nigham: prepared by Khaled Bu Hamad, directed by Ibrahim Al Kazemi.

1.00 News Summary
1.05 World News via Satellite
1.30 Variety programme
2.00 Animal World
3.15 God's Creation: religious programme
3.35 Liqa Al Kbamees: local programme, rounding up social news

5.00 Sally: cartoon serial
6.00 Ayyam Al Ramad: Arabic serial; starring Osama Al Mashini, Mubammad Ibad, Abeer Issa, Rab'ee Shihab

7.00 With Students: educational programme
8.00 Kul Al Funoon: focus on arts, presented by Rasha Magdi
8.30 With Islam
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Muzakarat Al Zawj: Arabic serial

10.45 Sa'ed Al Abloom: Arabic feature film, starring Mamdouh Abdul Aleem, Sabirin, Ala Rami, Hanan Shawki
12.15 Thursday's Variety Show

1.15 News Summary
1.20 World News via Satellite
1.45 Holy Quran/Closedown

FRIDAY

9.00 Holy Quran
9.20 Cartoons
9.45 Hawala Shagawah: children's serial
10.00 Variety
10.15 Children's Magazine
11.00 Aladith: religious programme

11.15 Friday Prayer: live from the Great Mosque
12.20 Colours: presented by Fatima Abdulwahab
1.00 News Summary
1.05 World News via satellite

1.30 Hadith: Deeni: religious talk by Sheikh Mohammad Mithwalli Al Sharawi
2.15 Hikayat Kul Saif: Arabic play, starring: Wahid Saif, Laila Fahmi, Ala Rami, Inad Rashad. Comedy.

5.00 Sally: cartoons
6.00 Kuwait in a Week: weekly roundup of local news



Beauty and the Beast on KTV 2 tonight.

6.30 Programmes Preview
7.00 Water is Life: educational programme
8.00 With the Family
8.45 Weekly Religious Talk
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Muzakarat Al Zawj: Arabic serial

10.30 Late Night Variety Show
11.45 World News via Satellite
12.05 Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Police Academy: Cartoons
6.30 Mr Wizard's World: An educational programme for young viewers, it focusses on magic, illusions and scientific experiments.

7.00 Wild America: The wildlife of Dakota is featured on tonight's show.
7.30 Munsters Today: "Once in a Blue Moon" Lily's mother pays a visit.... Comedy.

8.00 News in English
8.40 Beauty and the Beast: "At Midnight," Diana follows the clue to find Vincent's kidnapped son; and Gabriel sets an ambush to capture Vincent. Starring: Ron Perlman.

9.30 Bill Cosby Show: Theo plans a trip to Cairo and tries to convince the Huxtables that he would behave himself. Comedy.
10.00 Just for the Record: Record-breaking feats

are captured on camera for this show.
10.30 Thursday Night Movie: "Under the Rainbow."
12.00 News in Brief
12.10 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

FRIDAY

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Popeye and Son: Cartoons
6.30 Family Feature Film: "The Legend of Young Dick Turpin." The adventures of Dick, who runs away from his farm to find a better life in London. On the way, he overcomes many obstacles.

8.00 News in English
8.45 Globe TV: A Ticket to the World: Global television magazine shows — looking at the global village.
9.30 Weekend: feature on new hazardous waste recycling plant; Murrah Highway Project; introducing new spots around Kuwait. Regular features: music, sport, sneak preview.

10.00 Tales from the Dark-side: Strange and bizarre stories are featured in this serial. Tonight, a man dreams he has been compelled to stop smoking....
10.30 Wiseguys: "Day Four" General Masters' plot against Vinnie and Frank comes to light.
11.30 News in Brief
11.40 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

PRAYERS

Fajr 3.16 am
Zuhr 11.46
Asr 3.20 pm
Maghreb 6.42
Isha 8.12

FRIDAY

Fajr 3.15 am
Friday Prayer 11.46
Asr 3.20 pm
Maghreb 6.43
Isha 8.13

CINEMA

Al Andalus
Hanafi Al Ubbah (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Huda Ramzi, Farouk Fishawi
Al Salmiya
Al Raqqasah Wal Siyasi (Arabic)
Starring: Nabila Obaid, Salah Qabil
Al Hanan
Hanafi Al Ubbah (Arabic)
Drive-In
Al Raqqasah Wal Siyasi (Arabic)
Al Firdous
Qatil (Hindi)
Starring: Aditya Pancholi, Sangeet Brijani
Fahad Open Air
Sikka (Hindi)
Al Fahad
Baro Bhai (Bengali)
Al Jahra
"Laila wa..." (Arabic)
Granada
Splitz
Salaahkhat
Carnival (Malayalam)
Al Jeeb
Waqt Ki Awaaz (Hindi)
Ahmadi Drive-In
Al Raqqasah Wal Siyasi (Arabic)

Al Jahra
Welcome to 18
Granada
Alley Cat
Salaahkhat
Radio Active Dreams
Al Jeeb
Mera Jeevan Saathi (Hindi)

FRIDAY

Al Jahra
Welcome to 18
Granada
Alley Cat
Salaahkhat
Radio Active Dreams
Al Jeeb
Mera Jeevan Saathi (Hindi)

Music

Summer Rock Concert
June 4/5/6: High Spirits and Seventh Sky rock concert; music from Police, Dire Straits, Bon Jovi, Guns n' Roses etc. For reservations call 5387998/2563395 after 5 pm.

Arts

Boushahri Gallery
A MONTH-LONG exhibition of paintings by eight Arab artists is now being held at the Boushahri Gallery, North Salmiya Bldg, Salem Al Mubarak St. The works of such artists as Jafar Isah, Jafar Kaki, Rashed Diyab, Dia Al Azzawi and Saleh Jama'ci are on show. Open daily from 9 am to 12.30 pm; 4 to 7.30 pm; until month end.

Theatre

PAC show cancelled
June 7: The PAC committee has cancelled the event scheduled for June 7 at Sharq Hall due to the demise of their chief adviser Shaif Saani on May 25. A new date will be announced later.

IAC One-Act

May 30: Madhu and Friends present *Krihure Nanni*; Malayalam; Stage Index perform *Shanti Parvam*, Malayalam.
May 31: Bengali Cultural Society's *Maurich Senghad*; Bengali; IAC badminton team perform *Chantevan and His Clan*; Malayalam. Natiya Bharati present *Kafan*

Social

Daniella Coffee Morning
June 3: The next coffee morning for Dances will take place at 9.30 am, Kuwait International Hotel. For details call Inge: 3727688 ext. 207.

LIL

June 4: LIL will hold Latino programme: Regency Palace Hotel; 8 pm sharp; doors open: 6 pm; close: 7.45 pm. No one will be allowed to enter after programme begins. Door charge. Extravaganza features performers from Columbia, Bolivia, Argentina and other Latin countries.

Kuwait Players AGM

JUNE 4: Kuwait Players annual general meeting; 8 pm, Al Foz, Messilah Beach Hotel.

PAC membership

THE Pakistan Arts Circle (veterans) have launched a membership campaign. All Pakistanis are welcome. Membership forms available from PAC. For details contact A S Qureshi (5716388); A S Ghazali (5631815); N Khan (4843578); Z Butt (2414570).

Sport

Daniella bowling
June 7: Daniella ends social season by inviting all Dances for a relaxed bowling evening, 7 pm. For details of venue contact Helmut — Tel: 3715619; or Winnie — 5733382

Hotels

At Al Salam
Al Bender Coffee Shop. Arabic and Continental buffets, lunch and dinner; also a la carte; open 6 am to midnight.
Al Mawardi Open-Air Cafe: open from 6 pm to midnight.
Al Gandouli Gulf Garden open after 6 pm; grilled food.
Friday brunch: 12 noon to 3 pm, ship discovery tour, entertainment for children and cartoon-strip characters.
At the SAS
Bistro: Sunday/Wednesday — pasta night; Italian music. Peacock Room: Chinese cuisine; lunch and dinner.

At the Holiday Inn

Al Ahmadi Coffee Shop. breakfast, lunch and dinner buffets. Continental and Oriental cuisine.
Al Andalus Supper Club: Arabic Nite, every Thursday; Arabic band entertains guests.
Friday Family Lunch: Disney fantasy on Fridays.
At the Plaza:
Al Dallah Coffee Shop. international cuisine; open buffet plus menu.
Lolouah Corner: snacks and refreshing summer drinks.
Marco Polo: Italian ambience and cuisine, particularly pasta.

At the Messilah Beach

Al Mubarakiyah: open around the clock; seafood promotion on Wednesdays, 7 pm; Fridays — Middle Eastern cuisine.
Al Jawharah: Thursday special — special menu; music by Rainbow Band.
Al Bardenah BBQ on Thursday in beach-garden restaurant; Lebanese food.

Competition

Approb Essay Competition
THE Association of Pakistani Professionals and Businessmen holds an essay competition. Essays on "My Role in Building a Better Pakistan" can be submitted by Pakistani students. Open to juniors (12-14); seniors (15-18). Essays of between 1,000 and 1,500 words can be written in English and Urdu.
Send essays to Approb, P.O. Box 2351, Salmiya, 22024, Kuwait. Last date for entries: May 31. For details contact 2425315.

Hopeful news about hair regrowth

The Upjohn Company is now marketing Regaine, a new product that stimulates hair regrowth in a significant percentage of women, suffering from hair loss. For best results with Regaine a woman must bear in mind the following:

— Regaine must be applied to the scalp and not to the hair, in order to be effective.
— Regaine bottles come with three metered disposable applicators and the extended spray applicator will work best for female users.
— Regaine must be applied twice a day in order to be effective.
— Following application of Regaine, the users should refrain from swimming, showering or otherwise rinsing the scalp, for at least four hours.
— Regaine offers a standardised formulation for pharmaceutical elegance, purity, and consistent level of the active ingredient.
"Regaine is a breakthrough in the treatment of hair loss in men and women," said Dr Ihsan Jarrah Upjohn Manager Kuwait and Gulf. He also added that Regaine is now available in Kuwait and the Gulf, in addition to many other countries in the world, including U.S.A., U.K., Canada, France and Belgium.

MARKETPLACE

WANTED part-time Filipina maid with valid residency to work afternoons, three days a week. Call 3713950. (A7E-52968-3)

WANTED immediately, responsible Filipina maid, full time, live-in, to handle housekeeping, cooking, and childcare duties in Western household. Must speak and read good English. Call 3724977. (A7E-52969-2)

NAME CHANGE

I, Shima Rawther Mohamed Kassim Mohamed Jackriya, holder of Indian passport No. X172790, issued in Kuwait on 10.4.85, would like to change my name to Mohamed Zakaria Mohamed Kassim. (A7A-52843-3)

SERVICES

Transport

REQUIRED from Sainiyya near Indian School to Sharq, Dasman, 9 am and 8 pm. Tele. Dharmesh, 2415480, 9 am - 8 pm. (A7A-52870-3)

REQUIRED at 1 pm from Sharq to Rumeithiya, Sat-Wed and on Thursday 'at 1.20 pm. 'Tele. 2417094, 2420303, 8 am - 4 pm. (A7A-52876-2)

AC transport wanted from AC Showkh four times daily 6.30 am, 4 pm, & 7 pm except Friday. Please tele 4810477 for details during the above times. (A7A-4K-T)

Tuition

MUSIC tuition (organ). Organ piano available at home at 1 miya in Al Mubarak Street, students above 8 years old. Richard, 4316678, 5734971. (A7A-52875-2)

A QUALIFIED and experienced teacher gives tuitions in science and maths if required. Please contact 2432949, through 3 a.m. Located in Kuwait City. (A7A-52876-2)

RELIABLE tuition available K.G., infant and junior classes home. Tele. 2409170, 9 am to 5 pm. (A7E-52877-2)

PETS

TWO Labrador Retrievers, two months old, for sale, good homes. Tel. 5639964. (A7E-52878-2)

THREE male shaded silver chilla kittens (Persian haired), beautiful, friendly, housetrained, 10 weeks of 3724797. (A7E-52879-2)

(A14-AJ-1M-3)

94732570

ATU-5200-2

World Cup mirrors realities of Italian life

ROME, May 30. (Reuters) When Italy won the right to stage next month's World Cup many saw the soccer spectacular as a perfect opportunity to show off a dynamic modern country.

But the image that has emerged has often been the opposite — bureaucratic chaos and delay rather than efficiency and élan.

Preparations for the month-long tournament have in fact perfectly mirrored the twin realities of everyday Italian life — brilliant dynamism and invention dragged back by political squabbling and the suffocating weight of bureaucratic red tape.

For the World Cup the result of this eternal conflict has been spiralling costs and chronic delays that put construction projects desperately behind schedule.

World Cup organisational supremo Luca di Montezemolo has expressed increasing disillusion about the difficulties of staging a major sporting event in this country as the June 8 kick-off draws closer.

He said with biting sarcasm recently: "It was logical that in Italy everything should be done at the last minute. It would be absurd to expect anything different."

The final deadline for completing World Cup projects, including stadiums, slipped first from October to April, then from April to May 15.

Systems But even after that date passed, dozens of roads, car parks, transport systems and even some stadiums remained unfinished. Construction gangs are working day and night to finish in time. Costs have nearly doubled and now stand at an awesome \$5.7 billion.

Trade unions claim the last minute scramble to be ready forced safety standards to be ignored, contributing to the deaths of 24 workers on World Cup projects. This is 15 times higher than the average accident rate.

"For us the game has already been lost," said union leader Giorgio Benvenuto and workers have withdrawn a promise of a strike truce during the competition.

Montezemolo has bitterly complained that although Italy had six years to prepare for the World Cup little happened until the last minute. Most projects started only last summer.

As the May 15 deadline passed Montezemolo said: "It really seems that in some cases the stadiums will be ready only at the last minute when the teams come on to the pitch and the referee blows his whistle for kick-off."

He believes the difficulties he faced are a microcosm of problems crippling Italy itself.

Montezemolo says his Italia 90 organising committee functioned well, largely due to the help given by private companies who contributed know-how and staff. Italia 90 expects to make a profit of \$15 million.

But Montezemolo says the organisation of the sporting extravaganza has been constantly obstructed by a Byzantine political system that requires months or even years of back corridor haggling before a consensus can be formed to approve major projects.

There have been six Italian governments since Italy was awarded the World Cup in 1984, not to mention four city administrations in Rome and four in Naples, the two cities where delays have been most serious.

"The life of Italian cities is paralysed by procedures, by bureaucracy and by political crises. The greatest real problem of this country is the difficulty in passing from planning to implementation," Montezemolo said.

"We have so many positive aspects but the real illness of this nation is an excess of pluralism. We must have a country where it is possible to make decisions. I envy nations with two parties, one of opposition and one of government," he said.

Sports Minister Carlo Tognoli also blames the delays on local government squabbles. "It's all the cities' fault. They argued too much. All the procedures allowed work to start in good time," he said.

Many World Cup-related projects have been abandoned and others will not be completed until long after the final goal has been scored and the roar of the crowds has faded.

But if the delays, mix-ups and chaos in the build-up to the World Cup were typically Italian, so too was the astonishing speed at which work has been completed at the 11th hour.

Projects which a few weeks ago looked like chaotic, abandoned building sites have suddenly blossomed into car parks complete with hurriedly planted trees or new transport systems that may help unravel the traffic chaos of Italian cities.

A rail link from Rome airport to the city, which cynics believed would never be completed in time, went into operation this week.

"Miracles have been performed for the World Cup," said Montezemolo, while Rome Mayor and former Sports Minister Franco Carraro summed it all up when he said: "We are lazy planners but great improvisers."

Sabatini outlasts Sloane

Agassi, Graf win easily



Chesnokov in action against Florian. (Reuters wirephoto)



Sabatini hits a backhand to Sloane. (Reuters wirephoto)

PARIS, May 30. (AP) The purge of top seeds at the French Open stopped today. Andre Agassi, the top man left in the tournament overcame a sluggish start to win in straight sets and women's first seed Steffi Graf breezed despite allergy problems.

Fourth-seeded Gabriela Sabatini also won, although she blew two match points in the second set before advancing to the third round as well.

A day after No.1 Stefan Edberg and No.2 Boris Becker were eliminated to leave him atop the men's draw, the third-seeded Agassi moved his screaming shots to centre court and beat Canadian qualifier Todd Woodbridge 7-5, 6-1, 6-3.

The American struggled early, blowing a 4-0 first-set lead and holding off five set points. He turned it around just as quickly and allowed Woodbridge just four games the rest of the way.

There was none of the surliness that marked Agassi's first-round victory. In fact, he was cheered wildly by thousands of children at the tournament for a school holiday, and did some showboating at the end, hitting the ball into the stands after match point and jumping over the net.

"I went out today with the feeling, 'the first two seeds got beat.' Boris and Stefan getting beat helped me in that respect. You can't take anything for granted," he said.

Graf beat Jennifer Sanrock 6-1, 6-2 and said afterward that she was troubled by sinus and ear problems diagnosed as an allergy to "something in Paris — the clay, the air or something."

She has had similar medical problems at past French Opens. "I was wondering why I was always getting it here," Graf said. "The doctor says I will be alright in 2-3 days."

The way Graf played against Sanrock, there was not even a hint she was feeling less than 100 per cent.

Qualifying Sabatini made the tournament as a "lucky loser" from qualifying when former champion Hana Mandlikova withdrew with an injury. She won her first-round match over Britain's Sarah Loomore, but against Graf her luck ran out.

The world's top women's player, out to regain the French Open title, breezed through the first set and broke in the fifth game of the second set, wrapping up the victory in just 51 minutes.

Sabatini had a tougher time before defeating American Susan Sloane 6-0, 5-7, 6-1. Sloane fought off two match points in the eighth game of the second set, then won five straight games to tie the match at a set apiece.

She was up 30-0 in the first game of the third set when Sabatini started playing as she had in the first-set shutout.

"That was a big game," Sloane said. "If I had won that game, Sabatini broke serve and after dropping her own in the second game, won five in a row to finish out the match and the threat of another upset."

Also among the winners on the third day of the clay-court Grand Slam were eighth-seeded Andrei Chesnokov of the Soviet Union, who beat Jean-Philippe Fleurian of France 7-6, 6-1, 6-0; 13th seeded Jim Courier of the United States, who beat Milan Sreber of Czechoslovakia 7-6, 6-1, 2-6, 6-2; and 1988 runner-up Henri Leconte, a 6-4, 6-2, 6-1 winner over Bruno Oresar of Yugoslavia. Women's 11th seed Jana Novotna also advanced with a 6-1, 6-1 victory over Brenda Schultz of the Netherlands.

Plenty went wrong for Edberg and Becker yesterday. Two European teenagers, Sergi Bruguera and Goran Ivanisevic, knocked the top two seeds out of a Grand Slam tournament in the first round for the first time in history, and left the men's field wide open.

"I think this is going to be one of the most exciting French Opens, because someone unexpected could win it," Courier said.



Goran Ivanisevic of Yugoslavia celebrates after eliminating Becker on Tuesday. (Reuters wirephoto)



Agassi balances his racket on his head during his match against Woodbridge. (Reuters wirephoto)

Aouita to race in Dream Mile

OSLO, May 30. (Reuters) Said Aouita, Abdi Bile and Peter Elliott will all run in the Dream Mile at Oslo's Bislett Games on July 14, meeting director Svein Arne Hansen said today.

Hansen said the organisers also hoped that Steve Cram, who set the current world record of three minutes 46.32 seconds in the 1985 Dream Mile, would take part.

Moroccan Aouita is the world record holder over 1,500 metres. Somali Bile, last year's Dream Mile winner, is the world 1,500 metres champion while Briton Elliott is the Commonwealth 1,500 champion.

Hansen said American Randy Barnes, who broke the world shot put record 10 days ago, had confirmed that he would take part.

Union outclass Brothers



The winners, Union Cricket Club, with other officials

UNION Cricket Club thrashed Brothers Sporting Club by 218 runs in final of the Union Trophy earlier this week at the Union Ground in Falmouth.

Union's captain Jamil won the toss and elected to bat. No one had anticipated the things to come as Arshad Shams hammered all the Brothers bowlers at will on his way to a splendid 237 as Union put on 436 for the loss of eight wickets in their 40 overs.

Arshad Shams did not allow any Brothers' bowler to get on top as he smashed 22 sixes and 18 fours. He was in such fine form that he saved his opponents from a lot of running by despatching the ball over the ropes on nearly every occasion.

Shahzad chipped in with 47 runs while Sohail hit 41, Jamil 15 and Masood 14. Shahzad hit two sixes and six fours while Sohail hammered five sixes and two fours. Robin remained unbeaten at 118, which included a six. Mehboob hit 53 in his opening partnership of 168 with Arshad.

None of the Brothers bowlers were impressive although Kamal took three wickets. Manoj (two) and Masood, Malik and Yogesh one each.



Arshad Shams

included a six. Mehboob hit 53 in his opening partnership of 168 with Arshad.

None of the Brothers bowlers were impressive although Kamal took three wickets. Manoj (two) and Masood, Malik and Yogesh one each.

Arshad Shams deservedly took the Man of the Match award.



Espinosa retains title

Challenger Huley Sneed (left) of the United States takes a night nook from Luisito Espinosa of the Philippines during their World Boxing Association bantamweight title match in Bangkok yesterday. Espinosa retained his title when Sneed retired in the ninth round. (Reuters wirephoto)

RESULTS of Sheraton bridge game held on Tuesday:

N/S	1. Mohamed Merchant & Zafaruddin	2. Ravi Bhatt & Mukhtyar	3. Gnan & Saad	4. Ashraf & Arora	5. D'Souza & Mrs Perera
E/W	1. Desmond Perera & Sagar	2. Gajster & Harris	3. D'Souza & Mrs Perera	4. Sagar & Gajster	5. D'Souza & Mrs Perera

Budge Club game played on Saturday:

N/S	1. D. Paroira & Johnny	2. A. Banayol & Mohammed	3. Bianca Moussali & Ahmed	4. Sagar & Gajster	5. D'Souza & Mrs Perera
E/W	1. Sagar & Gajster	2. D'Souza & Mrs Perera	3. D'Souza & Mrs Perera	4. Sagar & Gajster	5. D'Souza & Mrs Perera

SPORTS BRIEFS

Cameroon list

ROME, May 30. (AP) Soccer officials today released final rosters of teams competing in the World Cup tournament, but a spokesman for the International Soccer Federation said Cameroon failed to submit its list and could be fined. The Italian news agency Ansa, citing a Cameroon soccer federation official, said the missing list had been sent to Fifa by telex from Yugoslavia where the team was training.

Arsenal forward

GLASGOW, May 30. (Reuters) Scotland Premier Division soccer club Glasgow Celtic have signed Arsenal forward Martin Hayes for £650,000 (\$1.1). Hayes, 24, a former England under-21 player, has signed a three-year contract.

Cup workers

ROME, May 30. (AP) A civic group will present a plaque at Rome's main soccer stadium tomorrow honouring workers killed in World Cup construction projects, the organisation said yesterday.

Romanian team

BUCHAREST, Romania, May 30. (AP) President-elect Ion Iliescu sent Romania's soccer team off to the World Cup in Italy yesterday with a promise of bonuses if it is successful. "We are optimistic about the team's chances in the World Cup and we will compensate them as other countries do," Iliescu said.

Volleyball tourney

NAIROBI, May 30. (UPI) Egypt has been nominated by the African

Badminton results

Men's Thomas Cup: China 5 def. Denmark 0 — Yang Yang, China, def. Morten Frost, Denmark, 7-15, 15-12, 15-11; Xiong Guobao, China, def. Poul-Erik Hoyer-Larsen, Denmark, 15-17, 15-1, 15-8.

Zhao Jianhua, China, def. Jens Peter Nielsen, Denmark, 15-8, 15-9, 15-11; Yungbo and Tian Bingyi, China, def. Jan Paulsen and Henrik Swarner, Denmark, 16-18, 15-7, 15-3; Cheng Kang and Chen Hongyong, China, def. Max Gandrup and Thomas Lund, Denmark, 15-5, 15-5.

Women's Uber Cup: China 5 def. Indonesia 0 — Tang Jiahong, China, def. Susi Susanti, Indonesia, 11-7, 6-11, 11-6; Huang Hua, China, def. Minarti Timur, Indonesia, 12-10, 11-2; Zhou Lai, China, def. Sarwendah Kusumawardana, Indonesia, 12-10, 12-10.

Yao Fen and Lai Caijin, China, def. Roszema Tendean and Erna Sulistiana, Indonesia, 15-8, 9-15, 15-7; Guan Wuzhen and She Fangling, China, def. Verawati Fajrin and Yanti Kusman, Indonesia, 9-15, 15-12, 15-9.

Quarry's comeback

MADISON, Wisconsin, May 30. (AP) Jerry Quarry's scheduled comeback to boxing was postponed after the former heavyweight lost to a cabinet door by TKO, a promoter said yesterday. Gary Piller, the Janesville promoter organising the June 9 fight, said the "freak accident" happened when Quarry was washing dis-

hes at his condominium in Lake Geneva, where the bout was to be held. A cabinet door was opened inadvertently and it struck the fighter's left eye, causing a large wound that will take 6-8 weeks to heal, Piller said.

French team

SYDNEY, Australia, May 30. (AP) The French rugby team led by star fullback Serge Blanco arrived today for an eight-match Australian tour that will include three Test matches against the national side.

Boyer triumphs

BASELGA DPINE, Italy, May 30. (AP) Frenchman Eric Boyer broke away from the pack on the final climb yesterday and won the 12th stage of the Tour of Italy cycling race by 33 seconds of the main pack.

Guilty plea

PORTLAND, Ore., May 30. (AP) Portland Trail Blazers' rookie Cliff Robinson pleaded guilty yesterday to punching a policewoman outside a Portland bar. Robinson, 23, was sentenced to a year of probation and fined \$250 for fourth-degree assault, a misdemeanor.

Romanian players

BUCHAREST, May 30. (UPI) Romanian soccer players, long ignored during the Ceausescu regime, may soon receive recognition under the country's labour laws, the official state news agency Rompress reported.

"Eventually soccer would be acknowledged as a profession, with clear rights and obligations of players and coaches," said Cornel Dinu, the Romanian minister of sport.

Romania holds post-revolution bridge tourney

BUCHAREST, Romania, May 30. (AP) More than 200 bridge players are shuffling their cards at Romania's first international bridge festival since communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu banned the game seven years ago.

Over the weekend, about 800 players from Romania, Bulgaria, the Soviet Union, Poland and France are expected to gather at Bucharest's main exhibition hall for the festival, which ends Sunday.

Dragos Paun, who helped organise the event, said he thinks Ceausescu banned bridge in 1983 because it brought "too many smart brains together" hinting at the former dictator's fear of opposition of any kind.

But bridge referee Victor Marculetiu he thought Ceausescu banned the game to separate his oldest son, Valentin, from other players.

"He used to play a lot and was an intelligent guy. He was OK. I think he does not deserve his fate," he said. Valentin, his brother Nicu and sister Zoia were arrested and jailed following the December revolution, in which Ceausescu and his wife, Elena, were deposed and executed.

Smith aims for double in Emirates Cup

BRITAIN'S leading show-jumpers will face a strong international challenge when they enter the arena at the All England Jumping Course at Hickstead tomorrow for the Emirates Airline Cup, the richest Grand Prix event in Europe.

Sponsored by Emirates, the British Grand Prix has attracted several of the world's top riders and, with record prize-money totalling £60,000, it is one of the highlights of the prestigious four-day meeting.

Important

On Sunday (June 3), the other big event at this week's meeting, the Dubai-sponsored Nations Cup, will bring one of Europe's most important equestrian events to a climax with an international competition between Britain, France, Germany, Switzerland and Ireland.

Britain and Holland currently lead the chase for the Nations Cup with nine points, while France are two points adrift in third place.

Among the individual overseas entries for the meet-



Robert Smith, on Brookstreet Boyse, on his way to victory in the 1989 Emirates Cup.

ing, which opens today, are New Zealand's brilliant Mark Todd, American rider Jane Carter and Herve Godignon and Eric Lavallois of France. A

strong German entry is also expected, including 1988 Dubai Cup winner Ludger Beerbaum.

But it is the British contingent which is tipped to

provide the strongest challenge with Robert Smith, son of the famous Harvey and winner of the 1989 Dubai Cup, a popular choice to win his second

Dubai trophy and ride off with the winner's cheque of £20,000.

Last year, Smith enjoyed the highest payday of his career when he rode Brookstreet Boyse in the Dubai Cup in a hotly-contested jump-off against veteran Brazilian Nelson Pessoa on Vivadi.

In front of a delighted home crowd, Smith produced the best performance of his career, coaxing 15-year-old Boyse over the difficult course to clear the jumps more than a second ahead of Pessoa.

Repeat

Riding either Clover or Brookstreet Silver, Smith will need to repeat that form tomorrow if he is to fight off the challenge of a host of top-class British riders including his father Harvey, John Whitaker, Emma Jane Mac and the even-popular David Broume.

This will be Dubai's sixth year of involvement at the meeting, which offers £100,000 in prize-money and celebrates 30 years of equestrian events at Hickstead.

Protest at Cup deaths planned

ROME, May 30, (Reuters): Environmental groups said yesterday they would stage a protest to coincide with tomorrow's inauguration of Rome's World Cup soccer stadium to draw attention to those killed during the stadium building work.

"We wish to show world opinion the true face of Rome with its problems and its disregard for basic rights," a spokeswoman for the groups said.

"She said the protest would include forming a human chain around the stadium and laying a commemorative stone to the 24 labourers who died during World Cup construction work."

It would also draw attention to the large-scale financial speculation and disregard for the environment which protesters say went unnoticed in the race to meet World Cup deadlines.

Officials on the committee organising the protest include representatives from Italy's Green Party, friends of the earth, trade unions and local housing and urban renewal organisations.

The World Cup finals open in Milan on June 8 when holders Argentina play Cameroon. Tomorrow Pope John Paul will inaugurate and bless the rebuilt Olympic Stadium where the final will be held on July 8.

Overall World Cup organiser Luca Di Montezemolo and Italian Soccer Federation chief Antonio Matarrese said last month they supported a proposal by trade unions to observe a minute's silence for the dead labourers before the tournament started.

Italian unions have revoked a no-strike agreement for the duration of the World Cup because of the deaths.

Deported
Two English World Cup soccer fans ordered to be deported from Italy for fighting police have been set free because of a judicial huddle, police said yesterday.

Two Liverpool fans were served last week with an expulsion order and given a six-month suspended sentence by a court in Spoleto, north of Rome.

But a spokesman for paramilitary Carabinieri police said the 23-year-olds were only asked to leave Italy and not escorted to the border.

He said the court had mistakenly sentenced them to be deported under a law which was abrogated in February. He said police did not know where the fans were now.

The two had been convicted of resisting arrest, kicking and punching railway police and harassing passengers on a train.

Police said they were both drunk at the time.

England, concerned about the danger of violence by its fans during the month-long World Cup beginning on June 8, has appealed to Italy to take court proceedings against hooligans so they can be deported and banned from travelling abroad.

Cameroun picks strong defence

YAOUNDE, May 30, (Reuters): Cameroun have named their 22-man squad for the World Cup soccer finals in Italy.

The squad contains few surprises with Stephen Tataw, veteran Emmanuel Kunde and Bordeaux goalkeeper Joseph-Antoine Bell forming a solid defence to a well-established line-up.

Soviet coach Valeri Nepomniachi has also picked forward Roger Milla, who bowed out of the national side after Cameroun's 1988 African Nations Cup victory in Morocco. Twelve of the squad, including Milla, are amateurs.

Bulls, Pistons ready for 5th game

Trail Blazers take 3-2 lead



Jordan: positive attitude

PORTLAND, Oregon, May 30, (AP): Clyde Drexler emerged from a playoff shooting slump to score 32 points and the Portland Trail Blazers beat the Phoenix Suns 120-114 last night for a 3-2 lead in the Western Conference finals.

The Blazers, who increased their homecourt record to 9-0 in the playoffs, could advance to the National Basketball Association championship series for the first time in 13 years if they win tomorrow night in Phoenix.

Phoenix, which lost for the 20th straight time in Portland, trailed by as many as 12 points in the first half before rallying to take a 106-101 lead with 6:23 left. A four-point play — a 3-pointer by Drexler and a free throw by Kevin Duckworth on the play — helped bring Portland back.

The Trail Blazers tied it 109-109 on a short jumper by Terry Porter with 4:59 to go. Phoenix had four chances to regain the lead before Jerome Kersey's two free throws put Portland ahead with 2:54 left.

After Kevin Johnson's missed shot, Drexler's Dunk on a fastbreak made it 113-109 with 2:30 to play.

Mark West made one of two free throws with 1:53 to go before Dan Majerle scored inside to make it 113-112 with 1:16 left.

Buck Williams missed a shot for Portland before Tom Chambers made two free throws for a 114-113 Phoenix lead with 47 seconds to play.

The Trail Blazers regained the lead when Drexler was fouled by Majerle and made both free throws.

After Majerle missed a shot for Phoenix, Jeff Hornacek grabbed the rebound, but lost the ball in a scramble. Williams was fouled on the play and gave Portland a 117-114 lead with 15 seconds left.

Hornacek missed a 3-pointer with six seconds to go, Kersey got the rebound and made one of two free throws with 5.2 seconds left.

Drexler, shooting 40.5 per cent from the field for the playoffs, was 13-for-24 in game 5 and had 10 rebounds.

Kersey had 21 points and 11 rebounds and Porter scored 19.

Johnson had 28 points and 14 assists and Chambers 22 points and 13 rebounds for the Suns, but he was just 6-for-21 from the field.

Suddenly, the Chicago Bulls have become the "bad boys" and the Detroit Pistons are the nice playing the Eastern Conference finals.

The Bulls, bidding to become only the fifth NBA team to overcome a 2-0 deficit to win a best-of-7 series, pulled even at 2-2 with a pair of impressive victories over the weekend.

Now it's the Bulls talking tough, like Detroit used to, as they prepare for game 5 at the Palace here.

"We have the momentum and the confidence going into the Palace," the Bulls' Michael Jordan said. "We have to steal the game from them and win. We have a very positive attitude."

And you don't have to look very far to see where Chicago got all that confidence. It was in all those hours of Detroit tapes the Bulls had to watch, trying to figure out how to stop the "Jordan rules" which the Pistons had used so effectively.

The Bulls decided the best way to beat the Pistons was to play like the Pistons. So the Bulls turned into bad boys.

"I told the guys before (game 4) they get six fouls in the NBA: use every one of them," Bulls coach Phil Jackson said. "We didn't use all of them, but we let them know we came to play. If we keep up this intensity, no one will be able to beat us."

Chicago had only one more personal foul that Detroit, 33-32 in the fourth game, but boxscores can be misleading. Seven of Detroit's fouls were intentional in the game's final minute. Free throws accounted for the Bulls' final 11 points.

Henderson steals base No. 893 to break record

OAKLAND, California, May 30, (AP): Rickey Henderson broke Ty Cobb's American League record for stolen bases last night when he stole No. 893 in the sixth inning of the Oakland Athletics' game with the Toronto Blue Jays. Athletics lost the game 2-1.

Henderson is in his 11th Major-League season. Cobb stole 892 bases in 24 seasons from 1905-28.

Henderson also moved into third place on baseball's all-time career stolen base list. Only Lou Brock with 938 and Billy Hamilton, who stole 937 before the turn of the century, have stolen more bases than Henderson.

Henderson doubled with two out in the sixth off David Wells and stole third without a throw on a 2-0 pitch to Carney Lansford. It was his American League-leading 22nd steal. He has been caught three times.

When he reached third, Henderson threw his hands in the air, pulled up the bag and held it aloft as the crowd cheered.

The A's then presented him with a plaque consisting of a base with the number 893, a pair of white shoes and pictures of him stealing bases.

Ortola 5, Twins 1

Randy Milligan reached base for the 10th consecutive time with the first of his two runs and also had an RBI double as the Baltimore Orioles ended the Minnesota Twins' five-game winning streak 5-1 last night.

Milligan's on-base string included seven walks, two home runs and a single. It ended with a fourth-inning strikeout but he doubled a run home in the sixth and homered off Terry Lincecum in the ninth.

White Sox 5, Yankees 4
Lance Johnson scored the winning run with two out in the ninth inning on a wild pitch by Lance McCullers, giving the streaking Chicago White Sox a 5-4 victory over the hapless New York Yankees last night.

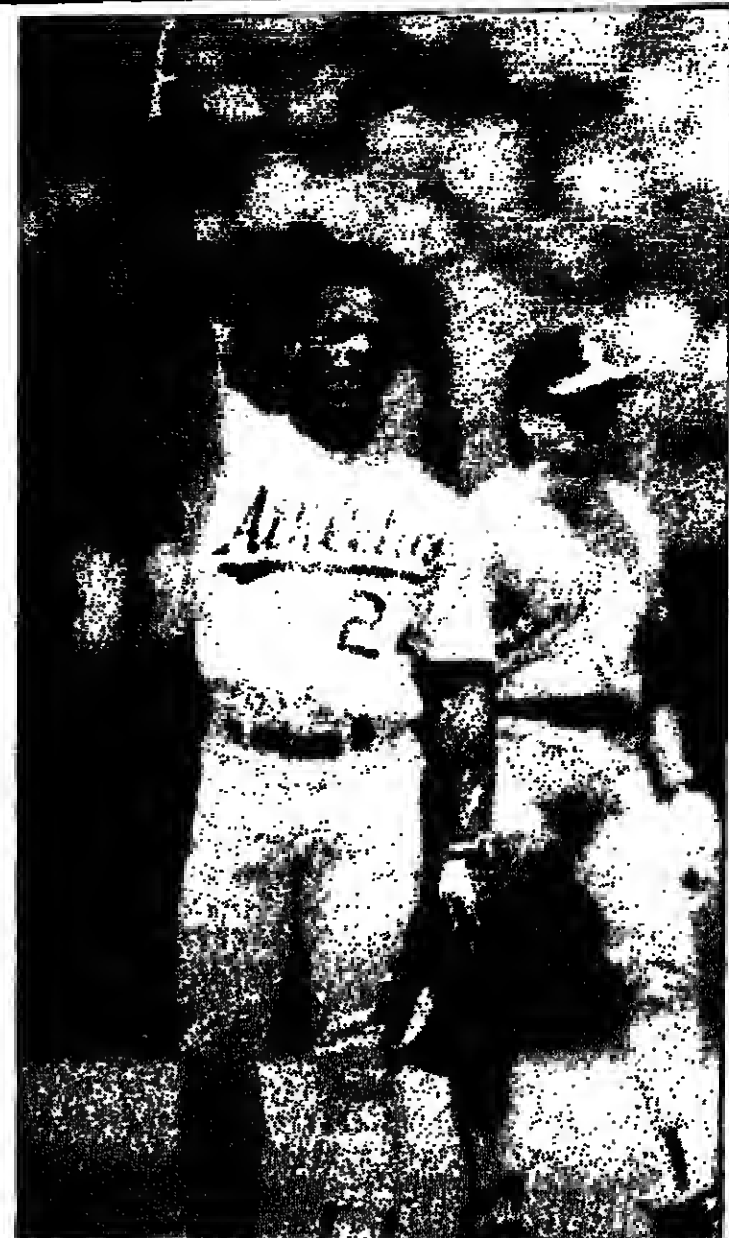
Chicago relief ace Bobby Thigpen (2-2) was the winner despite blowing a save for the third time in 18 opportunities.

The victory was the fourth straight for the White Sox. The Yankees suffered their fourth straight defeat. The victory upped the White Sox' home record to 17-6, best in the Majors.

Red Sox 2, Rangers 1
The Texas Rangers suffered a club record ninth consecutive home loss last night, falling to the Boston Red Sox 2-1 as Roger Clemens scattered seven hits in eight innings and Carlos Quintana doubled home the winning run with two out in the eighth.

Clemens (8-2) struck out eight and walked two in winning his fourth consecutive start. He boosted his American League-leading strikeout total to 69. Jeff Reardon pitched the ninth for his fifth save.

Texas has lost its last five games overall.



Henderson: 3rd on all-time list

straight for the White Sox. The Yankees suffered their fourth straight defeat. The victory upped the White Sox' home record to 17-6, best in the Majors.

Royals 5, Tigers 3
Jim Eisenreich singled out home the go-ahead run as the Kansas City Royals rallied for four runs in the eighth inning and beat the Detroit Tigers 5-3 for the fourth straight victory, their longest winning streak of the season.

The Tigers have lost eight straight at Royals stadium.

Results	
American League	
Chicago W.S.	5 N.Y. Yankees 4
Baltimore	5 Minnesota 1
Kansas City	5 Detroit 3
Boston	2 Texas 1
Toronto	2 Oakland 1
Milwaukee	5 Seattle 3
California	2 Cleveland 1
National League	
Cincinnati	3 N.Y. Mets 1
Pittsburgh	9 Los Angeles 5
San Francisco	6 Chicago Cubs 2
St. Louis	3 Houston 2
San Diego	at Philadelphia (ppd)

England rout Cagliari

PULA, SARDINIA, May 30, (UPI): England's World Cup soccer team beat the Italian club team Cagliari 6-0 yesterday in its first friendly training match since the English squad arrived in Italy.

England's goals were scored by striker Steve Bull in the 28th and 85th minutes, defender Tony Dorico in the 36th, striker Peter Beardsley with a 75th minute penalty, and two late goals from Aston Villa midfielder David Platt.

Pula is a small coastal town some 18 miles (30 km) south of Cagliari, the island capital where England will play its World Cup preliminary round matches.

Only a few hundred spectators watched the afternoon match, played in hot sunshine.

Cagliari assured itself of promotion to the Italian First Division May 20, three matches before the end of the Second Division season.

England manager Bobby Robson would have been pleased with the ease of his side's victory, especially as it was virtually a second-string lineup that took the field.

Belgian goalkeeper Michel Preud'Homme has no intention of being dazzled at the World Cup soccer finals. He plans to wear sunglasses in goal.

The international governing body Fifa forbids players from wearing objects that might injure others.

But Preud'Homme has applied for permission to wear sunglasses, arguing that the traditional goalkeeper's cap will not protect him sufficiently from the sun when intercepting high balls.

"These sunglasses are very flexible, they won't break even if you stamp your foot on them," Preud'Homme said yesterday. (Reuters)

The 22 members of the Soviet

Union soccer squad will each receive \$30,000 if they win the World Cup, the official Tass news agency said yesterday.

Vyacheslav Kolosov, president of the Soviet Football Federation, told Tass the main threat to the Soviet team would come from Italy, Brazil and the Netherlands.

The Soviet Union has been drawn in Group B for the opening round with holders Argentina, Cameroon and Romania — their first opponents on June 9 in Bari. (Reuters)

Midfielder Gerald Glatzmayer was named yesterday to replace injured newcomer Thomas Floegel in Austria's 22-man squad for the 1990 World Cup finals in Italy.

Doctors said Floegel, who last week ripped ligaments in his right ankle at his side's training camp in northern Italy, will probably be unable to play for at least six weeks. (UPI)

Johnson fired

CINCINNATI, Ohio, May 30, (Reuters): The New York Mets, considered big underachievers the last two seasons, fired manager Davey Johnson and replaced him with coach Buddy Hatter on yesterday.

Johnson, the first manager to be fired this year, has managed the Mets since 1984. He directed the team to a World Championship in 1986 and a National League East title in 1988.

The Mets made the announcement of Johnson's dismissal at a news conference in Cincinnati, where the Mets were scheduled to play last night.

Italy will win Cup, says witchdoctor

NAIROBI, May 30, (Reuters): A Kenyan witchdoctor has predicted host Italy will win this year's soccer World Cup.

But Abu Bakar Omar Shariff, who earlier this month correctly forecast that Manchester United would win the English FA Cup by one goal after drawing the first match against Crystal Palace, is keeping his options open.

"Things could change nearer the time unless Italy follow instructions from their magicians," he told Reuters.

To be on the safe side, he has picked five other strong contenders. He says reigning champions Argentina, England, the Netherlands, the Soviet Union, and Sweden all have a good chance should Italy falter.

He gives Brazil and West Germany, both former champions, only a 50-50 chance of reaching the second round. But neither country should be too dependent.

"At the moment their stars are not shining too brightly, but that does not mean they have completely no chance," Shariff said.

In the best tradition of football commentators, he quickly added: "Things are bound to change as the tournament progresses."

Shariff says eight other teams have a good chance of reaching the second round, but are unlikely to go any further. They are Czechoslovakia, the United States, Scotland, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Costa Rica, Egypt and Spain.

Brazilian Cup team comes under attack

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil, May 30, (AP): Brazilian newspapers yesterday attacked their World Cup-bound national soccer team, following a 1-0 loss a day earlier to a team of Italian Third-Division players.

"This is the Brazil of the Cup?" read a headline in the Rio newspaper O Globo.

"Brazil losses shamefully," the Jornal Dos Sports of Rio said.

The exhibition loss on Monday to a team of Third Division players from the north Italian region of Umbria, follows a 1-1 victory last Thursday against Gubbio of the Italian Second Division.

The Brazilian team and coach Sebastiao Lazaroni, one of the favorites to win the World Cup in Italy, have been criticized in the last month for disappointing performances against Bulgaria, East Germany and team of Spanish all-stars.

The sporting press yesterday openly worried that the team was nowhere near ready for its World Cup debut against Sweden on June 10.

Although the game, broadcast live in Brazil on radio and television, was practice, the Brazilian players looked confused and lackluster against a team they were expected to beat easily.

"The Brazilians showed a total lack of creativity in the midfield, holes in defense and slowness on the attack," said Jornal do Brasil of Rio. "There were more than half a hundred missed passes and an irritating apathy."

Other sports writers said the new, European-style sweeper system adopted last year by Lazaroni again looked vulnerable. The attack put on a pathetic show of missed chances and errant shots, notably by Alemão and Muller.

"Twelve days from its debut against Sweden, the impression left by the team in its last game — practice or not — was the worst possible," Jornal do Brasil said.

"Don't panic after all, worse is impossible..." O Globo columnist Renato Mauricio Parado wrote yesterday.

Rojas may seek psychiatric help



Rojas: not sure what normal is

SANTIAGO, Chile, May 30, (AP): Soccer goalie Roberto Rojas said yesterday he may seek psychiatric evaluation for secretly cutting himself to halt a World Cup qualifying match that Chile was losing to Brazil.

"I think it may be necessary to have a specialist examine me," Rojas said, answering reporters' questions while taping a television programme.

A reporter had asked him if he thought he was normal, or if he suspected he needed psychiatric treatment. "I'm not sure I know what normal is," Rojas said.

It was his first appearance since confessing on Saturday, in published interviews, that he sliced his own forehead with a scalpel at one minute, 69 seconds of the Sept 3 match in Rio de Janeiro's massive Maracana Stadium. He pretended to have been hit by a flare that landed near him on the playing field.

Brazil was winning 1-0 at the time, and the Chileans walked off the field. Videotapes and other evidence showed Rojas was not hit, however, and Brazil was granted the victory and a spot in this year's World Cup in Rome anyway.

Suspecting that Rojas had cheated, the international soccer federation banned him for life from professional play. Chilean fullback Fernando Astengo and coach Orlando Aravena were suspended for five years. Chile was banned from the 1994 World Cup in the United States.

Rojas' encounter with the press was tense, with some Chilean reporters insulting questions.

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Athletics

Lewis may not compete in Seattle

DURHAM, North Carolina, May 30. (Reuters): Six-time Olympic champion Carl Lewis indicated yesterday he probably would not compete in the Goodwill Games in Seattle this summer.

"I would like to come to the Goodwill Games but it is not a necessity," Lewis told Reuters.

Lewis also said that his first race of the 1990 season would be a 400-metre relay in the Minneapolis area on June 23.

Lewis status for the July meeting in Seattle is uncertain because of his plans not to compete in next month's US National Championships.

The Athletics Congress, the sport's US governing body, passed a rule last year requiring US athletes to participate in the US Championships to be eligible for the Goodwill Games.

Challenge

But Lewis, who did not train for six months earlier this year while working on his autobiography, said he would not be ready to challenge other US sprinters.

"I said I was not going to run an operation," said Lewis, who is attending the US Collegiate Championships this week.

Asked about the possibility of running a relay race at the US Championships to qualify for the Goodwill Games, Lewis said he was open to the suggestion but no decision had been made.

Traditionally, the US Championships do not include relay races for men.

Robin Smith hits 51 off 39 balls

Hampshire beat Yorkshire

LONDON, May 30. (Reuters): England batsman Robin Smith and West Indies paceman Malcolm Marshall lashed 68 in 12 overs to fire Hampshire to a five-wicket victory over Yorkshire in the English County Cricket Championship today.

Hampshire needed 215 in a minimum of 46 overs on the third and final day and reached the target with seven balls to spare, a result that meant Yorkshire have now lost all four of their championship games.

The victory at Headingley lifted Hampshire to third in the table, four points behind joint leaders Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire, who drew their top-of-the-table match on Monday.

Hampshire's win was set up by West Indian-born pace bowler Cardigan Connor, who had a haul of three wickets in 19 balls and ended with five for 96 as Yorkshire, 37 behind on first innings, were all out for 251.

Opener Chris Smith, dropped twice, paved the way for Hampshire by hitting 58 while his brother, Robbo, struck an unbeaten 51 from 39 balls and shared the crucial stand with Marshall (28).

Middlesex scooped a 10-run win over bottom-of-the-table Gloucestershire in a bizarre finish at Lord's.

Set 272 for victory, Gloucestershire sustained their bid until the eighth wicket fell when they were 40 short with 21 balls left.



Robin Smith

But Middlesex then gave away runs in an attempt to maintain their opponents' interest and at the same time take the last two wickets.

The tactics paid off as Gloucestershire lost their last two wickets while still chasing the target and Middlesex won with two balls left, former England off-spinner John Emburey and fellow slow bowler Phil Tufnel each taking four wickets.

Results

At Colwyn Bay: Glamorgan v Lancashire match abandoned. Glamorgan 205 in 67 overs and 203 for three when rain stopped play (I. Smith 112 not out, A. Butcher 66 not out). Lancashire 399 for seven declared in 100 overs. Lancashire 8 points Glamorgan 5.

At Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Worcestershire match abandoned. Warwickshire 295 for eight declared in 102 overs and 201 for eight declared (A. Miles 56, D. Reeve 49 not out, P. Booth 43). Worcestershire 253 for eight declared in 110.5 overs and 106 for one (T. Curtis 47 not out) — rain stopped play. Warwickshire 6 points Worcestershire 5.

At Leicester: Leicestershire v Somerset match drawn. Leicestershire 352 for four declared in 110 overs and 200 for nine

declared (G. Rose five for 52). Somerset 300 for five declared in 91.1 overs and 62 for one. Leicestershire 6 points Somerset 5.

At Lord's: Middlesex beat Gloucestershire by 10 runs. Middlesex 301 for seven declared in 97.4 overs and 230 for six declared (K. Browne 60, N. Williams 50 not out). Gloucestershire 260 for four declared in 106 overs and 261 (W. Athey 69, K. Curran 53 not out, J. Emburey four for 69, P. Tufnel four for 111). Middlesex 21 points Gloucestershire 6.

At Headingley: Hampshire beat Yorkshire by five wickets. Yorkshire 300 for eight declared in 99.5 overs and 251 (C. Pickles 57 not out, C. Connor five for 96). Hampshire 337 for seven declared in 92.4 overs and 215 for five (C. Smith 58, R. Smith 51 not out). Hampshire 23 points Yorkshire 7.

Standings	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Derbyshire	6	3	1	2	20	13	81																							
Nottingham	6	3	1	2	16	17	81																							
Hampshire	3	0	0	0	17	12	77																							
Warwickshire	4	2	1	1	12	13	57																							
Middlesex	4	2	0	2	14	10	56																							
Lancashire	5	2	0	4	17	15	48																							
Kent	4	2	0	0	11	4	47																							
Somerset	6	1	1	3	19	11	46																							
Glamorgan	5	1	1	3	15	15	46																							
Leicestershire	5	1	1	3	17	10	43																							
Northants	4	1	0	0	12	14	42																							
Essex	4	1	0	0	16	7	39																							
Worcester	4	1	1	2	12	9	37																							
Sussex	5	1	2	2	13	5	34																							
Yorkshire	4	0	4	0	10	11	21																							
Surrey	4	0	0	0	13	6	19																							
Gloucestershire	3	0	3	0	5	10	15																							

McKay cleared

INDIANAPOLIS, May 30. (AP): Antonio McKay, a two-time Olympic relay gold medalist suspended by the Athletics Congress for three months for using stimulants, has been cleared by an appeals panel of TAC.

McKay tested positive in January for the banned stimulant phenylpropanolamine at a level of 29 micrograms per millilitre.

Scots get off to flying start

GISBORNE, New Zealand, May 30. (Reuters): Scotland made a flying start to their rugby union tour of New Zealand today with a 45-0 win over a combined Poverty Bay-East Coast side.

The Scots ran in eight tries after their forwards had set up a solid platform in the first half.

But the win lacked the conviction expected from the Five Nations champions. At halftime they led the Third Division side by a relatively modest 15-0 with tries to number eight Graham Marshall and

scrumhalf Greg Oliver.

However, Lions skipper Finlay Calder, who took over as captain after David Sole left the field late in the game, was in outstanding form.

In the second half fullback Peter Dods, who also kicked five conversions and a penalty, scored a try.

The other tries, went to Marshall, his second of the day, hooker Ken Milne, New Zealand-born centre Sean Lineen, flyhalf Craig Chalmers and blindside flanker Derek Turnbull.



Title fight

A section of the crowd throw chairs at British boxer Derek Williams' cornerman during the 12th and final round of the European heavyweight title fight. Jean-Maurice Charet defeated Williams on points to take the bout. The fight was interrupted for 10 minutes and several people were slightly injured. (Reuters wirephoto)

US rowers get chance to exhibit their mettle

ATHERTON, California, May 30. (AP): The same US rowing team forced to miss the 1980 Olympics in Moscow because of the United States-led boycott will have a chance to find out what might have been. Crew members will be in Moscow next month to row against the same Russian eight they would have raced if then President Jimmy Carter hadn't ordered the boycott.

The US team included Charles Altcruse, who was captain of the unbeaten Harvard eight-oar crews of 1976-80.

Altcruse, who now works for a high-tech firm in San Jose and lives in Atherton, says he has always wondered how he and the other Americans would have done against the Soviets.

"We had been together only a week when we raced the East German team at Lucerne, Switzerland," he said. "They beat us, but by less than a length."

The East Germans, who had been unbeaten for four years, went on to capture the Olympics. Great Britain was second and the Russians third.

"We beat Great Britain at Lucerne so the Soviet crew was the only one that placed in the Olympics that we hadn't faced," said Bruce Ibbotson, who has been instrumental in organizing the challenge race.

"I've been spending a lot of time getting permission from different bodies and getting my own body in shape," said Ibbotson, 37.

Both the Soviet and US teams are intact according to US team manager Charles Colgan.

Drug testing to cost over \$1m

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colorado, May 30. (AP): The United States Olympic committee's year-round drug testing programme will cost more than \$1 million and involve 4,400 athletes in 37 different sports.

The programme is part of a joint US-Soviet agreement for year-round testing that replaces a system in which testing was done primarily at specific competitions.

The USOC said yesterday that the testing will be done at 197 sites, including most domestic competitions, in addition to the US Olympic Festival and the Goodwill Games. It said about \$842,000 of the \$1 million will be designated specifically for testing during competition and at training sites.

ITS: HIGH TECH FOR RETAIL AUTOMATION

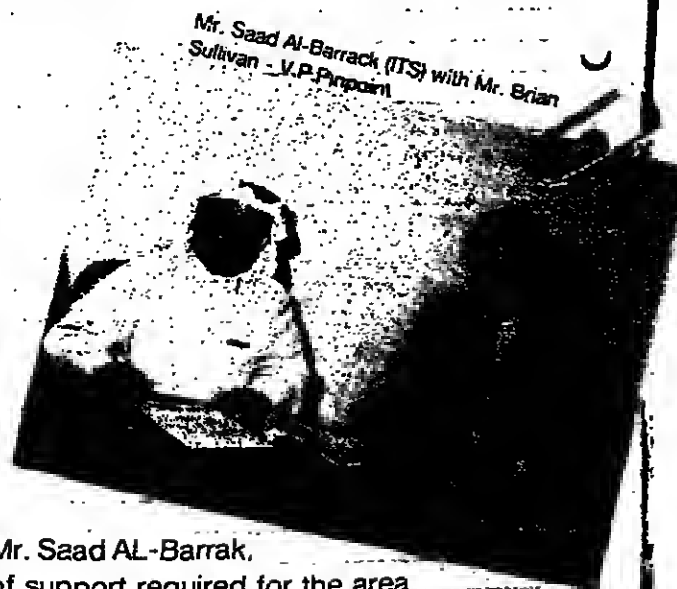


INTERNATIONAL TURNKEY SYSTEMS (ITS) has concluded an exclusive distributorship agreement in Kuwait, and non-exclusive in GCC countries, with PINPOINT RETAIL SYSTEMS OF TORONTO, CANADA for their high-end Electronic Cash Registers ECR/EPOS.

RETAIL System market is currently developing in the Middle East and ITS has committed extensive resources to develop the bilingual solutions and expertise to become a major supplier Gulf-wide through its offices in Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and the U.A.E. ITS specializes in providing high-tech turnkey integrated retail business solutions for today's market requirements and has developed considerable skills to support the solutions at all levels locally.

The agreement with PINPOINT enhances ITS's product line and brings state-of-the-art technology to the area. It is a very flexible machine compared to other ECR/EPOS systems in the market. ITS is fully equipped to modify the software as per customer requirements and provides a transparent link to comprehensive software modules called STREETWISE (Inventory Management) and UTOPIA (Accounting) to completely automate medium to large size retailers.

"We like to deal direct with manufacturers," says Mr. Saad AL-Barrak, ITS's general manager, "to get the highest level of support required for the area. It gives us a major advantage over other suppliers, as quality service is our number one objective".



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